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CHINA. No. 2 (1882).
(TRADE REPORTS.)

COMMERCIAL REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS.

IN

CHINA:

1881.

PART I.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1882.*

LONDON:
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1882.

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Commercial Reports by Her Majesty's Consuls in China: 1881.

AMOY.

Report on the Trade of Amoy for the Year 1881.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

DURING the year 536 British steamers, of 414,448 tons, entered Amoy, and 538 steamers, of 415,331 tons, cleared thence, giving a total entered and cleared of 1,074 steamers, with 829,779 tons; 67 British sailing-vessels, with 23,056 tons, entered, and 70 vessels, with 24,283 tons, cleared during the same period, showing a total of 137 sailing-vessels, with 47,339 tons.

The steamers of all other nationalities entered and cleared during 1881 amounted to 138, with 78,116 tons; and sailing-vessels to 291, with 91,813 tons.

The percentage of the entire trade in British hands, as will be seen by the annexed Table, amounts to—

				Per cent.
In trips of all kinds, by all nationalities	..	..	..	73·84
Tonnage employed	..	..	..	83·72
Foreign trade	..	..	..	91·36
Coast trade	..	..	..	76·54
Transit trade	..	..	..	65·18
Dues and duties	..	..	..	84·92

There is an increase in the number of vessels of all classes entered and cleared during 1881, as compared with the previous year, of 166, with 115,463 tons.

The number of steamers running to and from Amoy is annually increasing. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's line has been augmented, and four new vessels are expected. The Indo-China Steam Navigation Company are about to establish a line here in connection with the northern ports, and the Netherlands Steam Company run a vessel periodically to and from the Dutch Colonies. A regular communication exists by two steamers with Manila, and other vessels under the Spanish flag occasionally visit us. The number of sailing-vessels is, of course, diminishing under the competition of steam.

Emigration.—During 1881, 52 ships cleared, with 19,743 emigrants for the Straits Settlements, under Ordinance No. 5 of 1874 (Hong Kong).

The casualty list for the year is not a long one. On the 25th February the brig "Lady Aberdour," from New South Wales, put in in distress, and was sold to foreigners. On the 4th April the steam-ship "Hailoong" stranded at Quemoy, but was towed off again. On the 18th April Her Majesty's ship "Lapwing" collided with the Chinese steamer "Hochung." The latter sank, but all lives were saved. This collision was the cause of a lawsuit at the Supreme Court of Shanghai, but the owners of the "Hoochung," not being satisfied with the decision,

have appealed to the Privy Council. On the 2nd October the brig "Minatitlan" was towed in disabled by a typhoon, and was afterwards sold for breaking up. On the 5th November the steam-ship "Pakhoi," of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's line, ran on the Brown Rock, in Amoy harbour, and sank some days after. Although the ship struck the rocks within 100 yards of a Chinese gun-boat, no help of any kind was accorded or offered, and within two hours the unfortunate ship was gutted by the crowds of thieves who swarmed over her sides. Representations made to the authorities have not resulted in the restoration of a single article, but, as the looting seemed general among foreigners and natives alike, the subject was not pressed.

IMPORTS.

As will be seen from Table No. 2, there is an increase in the importation of opium of all kinds amounting to 288,537 lbs., valued at 263,220*l.*, as compared with the previous year. This increase is attributable to the imposition of an extra *li-kin* tax on drug entered at Swatow. Malwa opium was never held in favour in the Amoy district, and the large amount imported this year is sent back overland to the Swatow consumers, and a portion penetrates as far as Kiang-si and Kwang-si. The cultivation of the poppy in this district is not worth mentioning, and the little grown during 1881 resulted in a failure of the crop.

Cotton Goods.—In cotton goods an increase will be noted, on reference to the Tables, in grey shirtings, brocades, dyed shirtings, dyed figures, T-cloths, sheetings, chintzes, Turkey reds, damasks, velvets, cambrics, and unclassified cotton goods. There is an insignificant decrease in white shirtings, jeans, twills, yarns, and threads.

If any reliance can be placed on the declared value of the goods as given at the Custom-house, the noticeable increase in the import of cotton goods does not represent an increase in the value of the trade, which is stated for 1881 at a less figure than the previous year, but much faith need not be placed on the declarations, the goods paying duties according to the Tariff, and not *ad valorem*.

Woollen Goods.—There is an increase in the import of blankets, cloth, Spanish stripe, flannels, lastings, crape, long ells, and unclassified goods, and a decrease in bombazettes, bunting, camlets, and mixtures. The trade in woollens is, however, insignificant and unexpansive.

Metals.—A considerable decrease in the import of all metals, except steel and tin, is observable.

Sundries.—Raw cotton, salt fish, matches, needles, and rice show a considerable increase, but there is a falling-off in the other articles mentioned on the list.

EXPORTS.

The export of tea has increased from 18,065,256 lbs. in 1880 to 21,839,319 lbs. in 1881. It comes principally from Formosa, and is sent to the United States. The production of tea on the mainland of China near Amoy is steadily decreasing, owing to the fiscal exactions of the officials and the poverty of the people. An attempt to ship common Amoy tea to Formosa, for the purpose of mixing it with the finer Formosa sorts, was happily frustrated last year. Had the scheme escaped notice a most serious blow would have been given to the tea-planting industry in Formosa, from which it would have had much difficulty in recovering.

Iron-ware manufacture is at present attracting much attention in Amoy, and the export of iron cooking-pans has risen from 1,242,639 lbs. to

1,420,864 lbs. during the year 1881. The consumption of iron pans in China itself is enormous, but the export in foreign bottoms is chiefly to our Straits Settlements, Java, and Borneo. The supply to this and the neighbouring districts has hitherto been in the hands of two great monopolists, whose works are situated at Fêng-shun Hsien and Ta Pu Hsien, in the province of Kwangtung, not far from Amoy. These firms were powerful enough a few years since to prevent the pans coming to the ports of Amoy and Swatow, the natural outlets for them, and avoid paying duty at the Foreign Custom-house. This restriction was annulled, as far as Amoy was concerned, about four years ago, owing to the vigorous representations of a former Consul, but Swatow still remains under the ban. The pans can be cast at Amoy at half the cost charged by the monopolists, and an attempt has been recently made by a British and German subject to manufacture them with imported iron at Amoy with a view of exportation. As soon as the foundries began work, however, a furious stand was made against them by the authorities, who requested that they might be at once closed, and directed the Foreign Customs to prohibit the export of the pans. The question is at present under discussion at Peking, and the result anxiously awaited. It will be a very important one for Amoy, for, if the manufacture is allowed, a new industry of great magnitude will spring up, the inland monopolies will be crushed, a great want will be cheaply supplied to the Straits Colonies, and Amoy become the Fatshan of this part of China. Agitation is on foot for exploitation of the iron and coal mines which exist quite near, but if foundries are prohibited at the port nothing will come of it.

A grave decline in the export of sugar took place during the year under review, attributable principally to the shipment of the Formosa supply direct to Swatow, where there is a foreign refinery, or to Hong Kong. The sugar actually produced in the Amoy district is poor in quantity and quality.

The stationary foreign community at Amoy numbers 275, besides a migratory number of people connected with ships. The following is a Table of nationalities :—

British	..	..	..	..	..	..	152
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
American	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Portuguese	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Russian	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	275

R. J. FORREST, *Consul.*

British Consulate, Amoy, April 20, 1882.

(No. 1.)—SHIPPING. Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared under each Flag, for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.				Total Entered and Cleared.			
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.							
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	Total.					
							No.	Tons.				
British .	435	313,968	101	100,480	536	414,448	432	318,313	538	415,331	1,074	829,779
German .	13	7,149	5	1,864	18	9,003	8	4,674	9	4,134	17	8,808
Dutch .	4	3,376	..	..	4	3,376	4	3,376	..	..	4	3,376
Danish .	5	2,870	2	1,556	7	4,426	5	2,870	2	1,556	7	4,426
Spanish .	22	9,690	..	..	22	9,690	23	10,104	..	..	23	10,104
Russian .	1	811	1	811	2	1,622	1	811	..	..	1	811
Japanese .	..	..	1	826	1	826	..	..	1	826	1	826
Chinese .	12	8,019	3	2,520	15	10,539	16	10,983	..	..	16	10,983
Total ..	492	345,883	113	108,047	605	453,930	489	351,131	118	103,534	607	454,665
												908,595

SAILING-VESSELS.

	59	20,381	8	2,675	67	23,056	31	11,490	39	12,793	70	24,283	137
British	8	..	..	8	2,494	2	560	7	2,214	9	2,774	17
American	104	12	4,133	116	37,175	80	24,840	33	11,890	113	36,230	229
German	1	226	1	226	..	..	..	226	2
French	1	..	..	3	1,096	2	856	..	..	3	1,096	6
Dutch	3	..	..	8	1,817	5	1,137	3	758	3	1,895	16
Danish	7	1	239	6	1,597	4	958	1	223	5	1,181	11
Swedish	5	1	289	1	417	..	..	1	417	1	417	2
No flag	1	..	..	4	1,586	4	1,586	..	..	4	1,586	8
Siamese	3	1	240	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	191	23	7,576	214	69,474	129	41,633	85	28,035	214	69,588	428
Total	61,888	23	7,576	214	69,474	129	41,633	85	28,035	214	69,588	428

British Consulate, Amoy, April 25, 1882.

(Signed)

R. J. FORREST, Consul.

(No. 2.)—IMPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium—					
Malwa	Lbs.	817	836	38,413	40,456
Patna	...	334,560	368,379	385,140	338,901
Benares	...	663,680	506,438	815,680	646,741
Other kinds	...	111,706	90,098	260,067	216,778
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, grey, plain	Pieces	59,471	33,989	60,858	27,586
" white	...	40,553	30,680	39,069	26,357
" figured, &c.	...	66	48	330	233
" dyed, plain	...	1,158	670	1,187	698
" figured, &c.	...	2,818	3,071	3,437	2,446
T-cloths	...	76,494	31,746	130,715	34,090
Drills: English, Dutch, and American	...	4,907	2,733	3,836	2,588
Sheetings	...	86	63	4,094	2,763
Jeans and twills	...	540	300	76	48
Chintzes	...	1,769	830	2,588	1,085
Turkey red cloths and cambrics	...	5,901	3,486	9,338	3,147
Damasks, dyed	...	333	467	873	1,338
Velvets, &c.	...	306	321	247	247
Jaconets, &c.	...	1,327	337	2,134	478
Handkerchiefs	Dozens	2,076	289	2,573	353
Cotton goods, unclassified	Pieces	1,507	459	3,293	1,167
yarn and thread	Lbs.	4,173,609	188,701	3,784,607	176,918
Woolen goods—					
Blankets	Pairs	609	514	911	769
Bombazettes	Pieces	106	119	93	104
Bunting	...	14	16	10	11
Camlets, English	...	2,474	7,355	1,914	5,931
" Dutch	...	141	634	67	330
Cloth: broad, medium, and habit	...	315	2,038	340	2,199
Spanish stripes	...	366	1,513	403	1,696
Flannels	...	104	351	107	359
Lastings	...	940	2,345	995	2,519
" crapes	...	23	53	49	123
Long ells	...	637	1,058	776	1,200
Woolen goods, unclassified	...	309	285	761	636
Miscellaneous piece-goods—					
Wool and cotton mixtures	...	1,633	1,836	1,331	1,374
Linen goods	...	63	71	68	65
Canvas	Bolls	505	1,378	36	91
Metals—					
Copper: sheet, nails, &c.	Lbs.	37,395	788	19,044	405
Iron, nail-rod	...	351,171	2,330	310,189	1,960
" bar	...	45,123	361	278,455	1,547
" pig and kentledge	...	15,869	40	6,730	17
" ware, &c., unclassified	...	42,399	307	122,167	1,325
" unmanufactured	...	816,336	2,367	802,134	2,637
Lead, in pigs	...	2,199,877	26,469	2,145,737	22,363
Quicksilver	...	54,943	5,166	49,534	4,319
Steel	...	80,035	648	91,733	737
Tin, in slabs	...	1,117,159	47,673	1,358,606	54,444
" in plates	...	43,615	503	45,109	476
Metals, manufactured, unclassified, &c.	Value	...	327	...	1,540
Sundries—					
Sugar, brown	Lbs.	2,306	10	...	...
" white	...	21,547	318	24,457	360
Betal-nuts	...	107,068	536	6,067	33
Birds'-nests	...	10,704	15,684	9,763	16,070
Bicho-de-mar	...	565,889	11,141	696,540	13,736
Cloves and spices	...	45,556	2,696	28,679	1,845
Coal	Tons	957	2,152	1,303	2,708
Cotton, raw	Lbs.	862,433	16,196	1,660,896	24,890
Fish, dry and salt	...	3,013,913	33,041	6,093,853	66,976
Flint stones	...	370,338	465	313,013	395
Ginseng	...	11,301	6,198	13,067	10,015
Grain and pulse	...	159,183	345	499,636	1,133
Indigo	...	135,253	998	454,671	3,354
Isinglass	...	28,165	955	16,673	489
Matches	Gross	78,889	9,108	133,351	13,317
Mangrove-bark	Lbs.	1,679,667	2,014	536,301	565
Needles	Mills	1,967	138	2,930	190
Oil	Lbs.	114,037	800	195,180	1,423
Paints	...	38,791	1,365	43,639	1,068
Paper, black and white	...	55,709	770	38,380	376
Rattans	...	322,477	2,042	393,376	2,653
Rice	...	183,147	502	11,224,759	23,456
Sandal-wood	...	118,791	1,639	146,617	1,731
Sapan-wood	...	402,560	1,245	514,591	1,735
Wood, other sorts, unclassified	Value	...	2,390	...	4,725

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Sundries (continued)—					
Shell-fish, &c.	Lbs.	2,159,604	44,680	2,908,461	65,337
Timber, of all kinds.	Value . ....	...	341	...	344
Window-glass.	Boxes	1,504	1,394	1,481	1,280
Wax, vegetable tallow.	Lbs. ....	...	...	2,300	131
Sundries, unenumerated.	Value . ....	...	89,918	...	66,671

(Signed)

R. J. FORREST, *Consul.**British Consulate, Amoy, April 25, 1882.*

(No. 3.)—EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Silk, raw and thrown	Lbs.	196	78	...	...
„ piece-goods.	„	420	409	...	212
Tea, black.	„	18,065,256	733,081	21,839,319	831,115
„ dust. ....	„ ....	...	1,633	10,639	101
Bags, of all kinds.	Pieces.	378,840	5,520	736,630	7,964
Bamboo, of all kinds.	Value . ....	...	1,633	...	1,067
Beans and bean-cake.	Lbs.	8,354,339	21,365	7,330,381	18,554
Chinaware, &c.	„	3,498,215	14,339	2,745,463	11,309
Clothing; Chinese boots and shoes.	Value . ....	...	2,553	...	3,534
Fish, of all kinds.	Lbs.	146,533	1,622	114,568	747
Fire-crackers.	„	217,800	6,019	175,368	4,808
Fruits, of all kinds.	„	684,253	2,903	533,273	2,500
Grass-cloth.	„	16,565	5,006	25,448	10,978
Hair, of all kinds.	„	11,279	843	17,403	1,047
Hemp.	„	11,353	239	18,456	284
Indigo.	„	97,800	791	6,440	48
Long-ngans.	„	465,048	4,910	243,499	2,641
Mats and matting.	Pieces.	30,700	524	54,375	1,360
Medicines.	Lbs.	192,444	2,154	140,605	2,384
Metals, manufactured: iron pans, &c.	„	1,243,639	13,067	1,430,864	14,709
„ unmanufactured, unclassified.	„	2,300	54	...	...
Nankens.	„	444	35	11,399	868
Oil, of all kinds.	„	6,924	84	...	...
Paper, of all kinds.	„	3,690,817	61,944	4,658,066	75,900
Preserves.	„	150,456	2,631	110,195	1,847
Provisions and vegetables.	„	1,868,699	5,719	1,973,551	6,276
Sugar, white.	„	89,631	993	21,067	232
„ brown.	„	4,865,300	21,608	33,515	146
„ candy.	„	2,561,538	32,829	1,755,890	22,221
Tobacco.	„	398,271	16,799	242,776	10,563
Vermicelli and macaroni.	„	1,813,141	21,583	1,798,137	13,110
Sundries, unenumerated.	Value . ....	...	48,078	...	40,246

(Signed)

R. J. FORREST, *Consul.**British Consulate, Amoy, April 25, 1882.*

(No. 4.)—RE-EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium—			£		£
Patna	Lbs. ...	9,760	8,047	6,790	5,369
Benares	„ ...	490	363	160	127
Other kinds . . .	„ ...	2,787	2,186	5,751	4,899
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, dyed, plain	Pieces ...	90	11	...	...
Drills: English, Dutch, and American ...	„ ...	...	...	630	425
Cotton yarn and thread	Lbs. ...	...	...	8,541	504
Metals—					
Copper: sheet, nails, &c.	„ ...	240	5	...	...
Quicksilver ... ..	„ ...	...	...	675	57
Steel	„ ...	2,016	16	...	...
Tin, in slabs . . .	„ ...	7,733	342	21,514	862
Metals, manufactured, unclassified ...	Value . . .	...	8	...	...
Sundries—					
Betel-nuts	Lbs. ...	333	2	...	...
Birds'-nests . . .	„ ...	43	110	493	900
Fish, dry and salt	„ ...	766	12	...	...
Matches	Gross . . .	60	5	2,400	270
Shell-fish, &c.	Lbs. ...	16,688	257	...	...
Wax, vegetable tallow ... ..	„ ...	...	...	2,908	166
Sundries, unenumerated	Value . . .	...	651	...	239

(Signed) R. J. FORREST, Consul.
British Consulate, Amoy, April 25, 1882.

FOOCHOW.

Report on the Trade of Foochow for the Year 1881.

THE imports and exports this year come to 15,109,907 Haikwan taels, equal, at 5s. 8d. per tael, to 4,281,140l. 6s. 4d., against 16,022,930 Haikwan taels, or 4,673,646l. 5s. in 1880. The difference arises from the exports being less in 1881 by 1,108,872 Haikwan taels, and the imports more by 914,023 Haikwan taels. In other words, in tea alone, the staple export, there has been a smaller quantity exported in 1881 than in 1880, i.e., 730,918 piculs, or 97,455,733 lbs., against 798,846 piculs, or 106,512,800 lbs.

The treasure imported and exported, mainly from and to Hong Kong, to give life to this trade, amounts to 7,097,973 dollars, equal at 3s. 9d. to 1,330,869l. 18s. 9d.

The trade, so called foreign, because of the duties upon it, being collected by foreign employés, has yielded a net revenue of 2,022,934 Hk. t. 2 m. 6. c. 4c., equal to 573,164l. 15s. 2d., as compared with 2,167,463 Haikwan taels, or 632,176l. 14s. 2d. in the previous year, although ninety-four steamers under the Chinese flag participated in the trade.

With the exception of opium and lead the whole of the imports are on native account.

The share of the duties paid by vessels under the British flag is 1,791,315 Hk. t. 8 m. 9 c. 8 c., or 507,539l. 10s. 1d.; the Chinese flag figures next for 92,288 Hk. t. 7 m. 8 c. 8 c., or 26,148l. 10s. 4d.

The number of vessels employed in the foreign trade inwards and outwards is 597 of 473,735 tons, viz, 491 steamers of 429,561 tons, and 106 sailing-vessels of 44,174 tons; of this number 74 entered and 27 cleared in ballast. Of the 597 vessels entered and cleared, 459 were British, of 396,721 tons. A large proportion of the steamers are small craft employed in the carrying trade on the coast between Shanghai and Foochow northwards, and between Foochow, Amoy, Swatow, and Hong Kong, the terminus in the south. The Chinese steamers, ninety-four in number, are engaged solely in the coast trade between Shanghai and Foochow, so that this class of steamers making a number of trips during the year, figure in the shipping list several times over. The large steamers are chartered on foreign account for carrying teas during the six busy months to London and the Colonies.

The British flag continues to preponderate in the trade of the port, the percentage being estimated at 86 per cent. of the entire trade, while its proportion of the payment of the duties is put at 88 per cent., the number of British firms being 31 out of the 40 foreign houses of business in Foochow. Before going into further particulars, it will be well to mention that, during the first four months of each year, business transactions, as regards the foreign merchants at the port, are almost at a standstill, with the exception of making preparations for each coming tea season, in the shape of selling lead to send into the interior for the purpose of lining tea chests, and the obtaining loans of some lacs of dollars by the natives from the several foreign banks and merchants for the purchase of the first-crop teas.

IMPORTS.

					H. taels.
Total value ..	..	..	..	..	5,709,886
Foreign goods ..	..	..	..	..	3,837,891
Native goods ..	..	..	..	..	1,871,995

All the goods that are imported, with the exception of opium and lead, are getting more and more every year into the hands of the natives, the only European firm that has for some years made any attempt to compete with the Chinese in cotton goods, viz., Messrs. Holliday, Wise, and Co., having at last determined to close their business here at the completion of this year, thus leaving this branch of the trade of the port entirely in the hands of the native traders. All Manchester goods are shipped up from Hong Kong, while the native-manufactured stuffs are almost entirely imported from Shanghai. The quantity of business done remains steady and confined, the movement, if any, being a backward one. The market continues almost without variation on quotations twelve months ago, as, for example:—

Shirtings, import 83,007 pieces, are worth: 38½ yards, 10 lbs., 3 dol. 20 c.; 8½ lbs., 2 dol. 50 c.; 7 lbs., 2 dol. 20 c.; 6 lbs., 2 dollars.

T-cloths, import 281,984 pieces: 24 yards, 8 lbs., 2 dol. 30 c.; 7½ lbs., 2 dol. 10 c.; 7 lbs., 1 dol. 90 c.

Drills, English, import 3,047 pieces: per piece of 40 yards, 14 lbs., 2 dol. 45 c.; 15 lbs., 3 dollars; 18 lbs., 4 dol. 10 c.

American drills, import 3,793 pieces: per piece of 40 yards, from 4 dollars to 4 dol. 40 c.

Chintzes, import 3,721 pieces: per piece of 25 yards, best quality, 2 dol. 70 c.; 28 yards, inferior, 1 dol. 70 c.

The whole declared value of cotton goods imported is put at 704,623 Haikwan taels, or 199,642l. 6s. 10d., a most meagre trade considering the large population.

Woollen Goods.—Camlets, English, import 8,571 pieces, from 14 dollars to 16 dollars per piece.

Camlets, Dutch, import 68 pieces, 27 dollars per piece.

Broad cloth, import 1,249 pieces: per yard, 1 dol. 5 c. to 3 dol. 80 c.

Blankets, import 1,796 pairs: per pair, 8 lbs., 4 dol. 40 c.; 10 lbs., 5 dol. 20 c.; 12 lbs., 6 dollars.

Lastings, import 3,608 pieces: from 10 to 14 dollars per piece.

Long ells, import 1,282 pieces, from 8 dollars to 8 dol. 40 c. per piece.

Spanish stripes, import 4,260 pieces, 1 dollar per yard.

Total value of woollens imported during the year is declared at 226,825 Haikwan taels, equal to 64,267l. 1s. 8d.

The trade in cottons and woollens is, on the whole, of a most insignificant kind, and sufficient only to supply the retail dealers for local consumption. Not more than 120 pieces grey shirtings, and 1,080 pieces T-cloths, passed into the interior under transit passes. It must be that the upper departments in the Min Valley get their supplies from the adjoining Kiangsi province, from the port of Kewkiang, or elsewhere; or else Chinese nankeens are preferred on account of their warmth and durability as compared with the flimsy Manchester wares, or that the wealthy classes prefer silks and crapes for under clothing.

Metals.—Total value, 406,471 Haikwan taels (115,166l. 15s. 8d.).

Lead is the principal class under this heading. A considerable quantity of it is used during the tea season for linings of tea-chests. The import this year is 62,618 piculs, of a value 264,226 Haikwan taels, or 74,864l.

Lead is the only article in which any barter takes place, many of the foreign firms paying for some of the teas in this form; in fact, very often advances are made during the first few months of the year on the fine contract chops of tea that arrive at the beginning of the season. The market is ruled by that of Shanghai and of Hong Kong, at both of which places a good deal of speculation is always taking place. Quotations for cash have varied from 5 dol. 90 c., at which figure it now stands, to 6 dol. 40 c. per picul of 133½ lbs.; and against tea, 6 dol. 25 c. to 7 dollars. The quantity of lead carried into the country during the year under transit duty certificate is 37,687 piculs. Other metals in use are iron, tin slabs, and tin plates; they are, however, used to a small extent, as, for example, iron nail rod, 8,702 piculs; tin slabs, 5,135 piculs; tin plates, 1,000 piculs.

Opium.—Net import, 4,784; value, 2,006,312 Haikwan taels; equal to 568,455*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*

This import is altogether in foreign hands, the firms of David Sassoon and Sons, and E. D. Sassoon being the chief houses engaged in this trade.

I am indebted to Mr. Ezekiel, agent of the first of the above-named firms, for the following information respecting opium:—

“The supply and consumption of the drug during the twelve months under review, with but slight deflections in sympathy with disturbing conditions in centres of supply, have diverged but little off the lines of previous years. Statistics of the net importation for the year, though pre-figuring a marked increase on that of the preceding year, prove the actual gain and improvement in the circumstance of consumption to be but slight. Stocks of the drug yet unmoved, invariably the accumulation of but a short period preceding the close of the year, were yet greater and more significant at the close of the period under review. With such extensive and rapid influx of stocks, so marked a feature in the circumstances of this department of trade in Foochow, mere importation of figures in themselves, but partially reveal the measure and extent of improvement or retrogression actually established in the circumstances of the trade generally. The comparative figures below illustrate the preceding observations.

Net Importation in Piculs.

			Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Total.
1880	..	..	1,610	1,744	415	432	4,201
1881	..	..	1,808	1,778	521	676	4,783
Increase	..		198	34	106	244	582

Presumed Stocks.

				Piculs.	Piculs.
1880..	..	..	..	3,855	346
1881..	..	..	..	4,100	337

“The recognition of an increase of some 245 piculs in the consumption, as shown by the figures above, which furnish the basis of a correct comparative estimate, modifies considerably the initial conception of the prosperity, attested by the importation figures themselves; and though the

slight improvement shown is scarcely subversive of the average of extent and prosperity discovered in past years, it is yet a bit and a scrap to be welcomed in view of the partly receding health and vigour indicated in the circumstances of the opium trade in Foochow in recent years. With an adverse and inordinate *li-kin* Tariff, aggravated in its singularity and isolation amongst the lower and uniform scales of imposition in provinces adjoining our own, the marked and vital encroachments of the neighbouring provinces on the easier accessibility of commodities from Foochow to its own districts in the interior, have ever contributed deterrently to the legitimate expansion of the trade at this port, and completely dislodged Foochow from the position it once held, that of a centre of supply. When the transit and consumption of the drug at the intermediate ports in the south and at Ningpo in the north were restricted to their geographical limitations severally, Foochow imported and could account for 10,000 piculs of the drug annually. The large falling off in the importation has been concurrent with the successive accretions of the *li-kin* at this port, aggregating 65 taels. It used to be 19 taels then. To the evils attending such high and prohibitory Tariffs, mulcting this port in such a large share of its legitimate prosperity, the Board of Revenue has always testified, and the complete blockade at times established on the market here in consequence of large supplies of the drug reaching the interior from Ningpo, has on several occasions called for official protest and intervention. With such adverse conditions marking the course and development of the trade at this port, the gain of 245 piculs recorded this year is matter for congratulation. The instrumentality and share of the local Executive in the realization of the improvement, have been conspicuous by their absence, and we may with reason incline to the inference that the maximum of disturbance attending irregular fiscal incidence has been experienced and established.

"While referring to the circumstances of the *Li-kin* Office, it may be interesting to note that much of the evasion of its dues so flagrantly practised and successfully undertaken in recent years, has ceased, partly owing to the institution of greater vigilance and energetic system of collectorate, but mainly consequent on the smaller gains now yielded in smuggling the drug. There can be no doubt that smuggling has been on the wane in recent years, but the exact quantity that has paid *li-kin* during the past years is known to few not officially concerned in its collection. The once contemplated hypothecation of the *li-kin* on drugs imported into Foochow by importers in return for the advantage of a slight curtailment in the Tariff, with the supplementary scheme of farming proposed by the Cantonese in this province, so naturally the outcome of 30 per cent of the drug imported here annually, failing record in the *Li-kin* Office, will likewise testify the absurdity of promulgating an impracticable Tariff. It must be clearly understood that the consumption of the drug in China, and the vigilance and integrity of its fiscal administration are closely and inversely inter-dependent. The more complete the supervision of the Revenue Department, the lesser are the importation and consumption of the drug likely to become. Nor can the measures initiative of the ratification of the opium clause in the Chefoo Convention fail, if realized, in causing considerable disturbance in centres of supply and consumption of the drug in China.

"The increase shown in the figures of importation above given, is evidenced generally and by every item; and I shall now make a few remarks on each.

"Malwa and Persian. These have about the same status and footing on the markets in the interior, Persian passing as an inferior sort of Malwa. An increase in the one generally tells inversely on the other. But you will observe that the consumption of both these sorts has

increased this year, and this is because of the partial failure of native crops in this province, which also in its turn is a sort of a yet more inferior Malwa. The impetus thus given to the consumption of drug of foreign growth, Malwa and Persian, you see realized in the increase we are noticing. Moreover, if stocks of Persian in native hands, purchased and held over, as I have said, for a speculative feeling anticipated hereafter owing to failure of native crops, be considered, the consumption of Persian for the twelvemonth we are reviewing barely exceeds the aggregate of previous years. The natives who have speculated in the drug are now drawing on their stocks held back, to the almost complete exclusion of all first hand bargains. The Customs Returns for the current quarter will, I expect, compare unfavourably with the corresponding period last year.

"Yet another reason for the improvement both in Malwa and Persian is in that the tea-operations of 1880-81 left few native teamen of standing in the trade. The loans current invariably in the beginning of the tea season had greatly to be curtailed, and the bankers in advancing funds to the teamen, as customary, were compelled to reduce their credits. Hence the anxiety discovered by teamen to take up merchandize and operate with the proceeds. They bought opium in excess of the usual quantity, on long credit, and thus effected a loan indirectly which they could not have obtained directly with the bankers in hard cash. The Customs Returns for treasure imported into Foochow in 1881, as compared with those of the year before, will bear out my remarks on the tightness and lack of funds in the money market this season. The effect of the tea trade on the opium market is appreciably great. Almost all the drug that is purchased during the months of March, April, May, and June is taken up on long credit, which is converted into cash for loans to teamen in the interior, upon whose expedition and punctuality of disbursements later further operations in the drug mainly depend.

"*Patna* does not show any marked increase and has well kept within the limits of past years. This is the description of drug that is smuggled most in this province.

"*Benares* discovers a decided gain, and this is a part of the demand that has of late been exhibiting itself in consequence of greater attention that is being directed in India to its preparation. A good portion of Benares placed on the markets in China this year consisted of chests avowedly with drug of higher touch, that is, in excess of the usual quantity of morphia sorted into balls. In some instances it forms a chief ingredient in a species of adulteration made with Malwa, Persian, and native drug.

"*Native Drug*.—The mean of several differing estimates would constitute the yield at 1,000 piculs in this and the next province annually. The place where it is most grown is Wenchowfoo in Chekiang. The price of a picul is about 480 dollars, and the rivalry with foreign drug is insignificant hitherto, in Southern China.

"The average values of the various descriptions of the drug imported into Foochow during the year with the duty included are:—

						Dollars.
Malwa, per picul .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	760
Patna, per chest .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	685
Benares, „ .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	688
Persian, per picul .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	600

"During this period our market was greatly disturbed and extremes of fluctuation have been experienced. Chief of the disturbing factors has been the rumour, repeated more than once, of the proposed rise in *li-kin*; extensive speculations ensued thereon, and the *status quo* of affairs has injured a few of the dealers. Reshipments to the north and south have been

considerable, equalling fully those of the year 1879, when a large quantity of Patna had to be re-exported owing to the raids of the white ants in India itself. The bulk of reshipments this year has been in Malwa and to the north; the drug was markedly inferior and unsaleable in Foochow."

I have given above the views of Mr. Ezekiel in full as those of an Indian gentleman of large experience in the opium trade.

The remainder of the imports consist of the usual articles, and in about the same quantities: Bêche de mer, clocks, cuttle-fish, fish-skins, flints, flour, ginseng, isinglass, mussels, kerosine oil, pepper, rattans, sandal-wood, seaweed, shell-fish, window-glass, &c., all articles of foreign origin of a total value of 358,929 Haikwan taels, or 101,696*l.* 10*s.*

The native imported goods are bean-cakes, beans, China root, cotton (raw), date plums, fans, felt, and felt caps, fungus, grass-cloth, hemp, mats, medicines, melon-seeds, nankeens, oil (bean), paper, pears and apples, rice and paddy; safflower, silk piece goods, sugar and sugar candy, tallow, tobacco, varnish, vermilion, wax, wheat, &c., of an aggregate value of 1,330,246 Haikwan taels, or 376,907*l.* 4*s.*

The largest quantity of these native goods comes from the northern ports.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Total export 730,918 piculs, equal at 133½ to 97,455,733 lbs., as per following Table :—

			Black.	Green.	Brick.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
To Great Britain	..	..	441,057 13	..	..
India	..	..	250 22	..	..
Singapore	..	..	36 59	..	..
Australia	..	..	154,267	8 95	..
New Zealand	..	..	12,814 90	..	..
South Africa	..	..	7,229 77	..	..
Continent of Europe	..	..	1,390 89	..	..
United States of America	..	..	22,041 59	..	0 57
Russia	..	..	478 25	..	..
Hong Kong	..	..	20,611 69	66 50	2 28
Chinese ports (to Tien-tsin for Russia)			..	..	50,259 74
Total	..	..	680,580 49	75 45	50,262 59

Owing to the heavy losses incurred by most of the Chinese tea hong's last season, borrowing dollars for the new season at any amount of interest was exceedingly difficult, as both the foreign houses and banks required a better security than had been the case formerly; the result of this was that instead of 5,000,000 being sent up country for the purchase of the first crop, as was the case in 1880, not more than 3,500,000 dollars could be obtained for that purpose; this of course had a considerable effect on the supply, the total arrivals of the first crop being about 80,000 chests short of last year's yield. Great care was taken by the natives to secure teas at very low rates, they having been well cautioned by the foreigners that low prices would be sure to predominate at the opening of the market.

The first musters to arrive were the Packings, which were placed on the market on the 17th May; the contract chops from this district also arrived about this time and were immediately shipped to England.

Teas from the country districts arrived two days later (with the exception of the Kaisows, which district is about 300 miles inland from this port and the means of carriage very slow) and they were unanimously pronounced to be the most inferior crop that had been seen for many

years. The Kaisows, however, which arrived later, showed an improvement on the general crop, and in fact almost proved to be equal to the teas from this district the previous season.

This inferiority of crop can only be explained by the fact that scarcely any anxiety was exhibited in London for fine teas, the great demand being for common Congou; however, as the season proceeded, a demand sprang up for the fine teas.

The general opinion in the trade here about this time, viz., the latter end of May, was that the market would not open for at least a month, but to the general surprise it was finally opened on the 30th May by the settlement of three chops of Panyong tea at very remunerative prices to the teamen. The stocks were then standing at 124,000 chests of Congou, against 259,000 chests at the same date last year; the next day large settlements were made, nearly all being in the above-mentioned class of tea.

The business for the first week was almost entirely on colonial account. Five steamers were expected to load for the Colonies (Australia), a fact unparalleled in the history of the trade of this port; no less than 46,200 piculs were exported during the following month, while absolutely nothing had been sent to the Colonies up to the end of June the previous year. The extreme prices paid during the first week of the opening made it quite impossible for the London operators to enter the market; they consequently were obliged to remain quiet until the immediate wants of the Colonies had been satisfied, and the teamen after their late elevation felt inclined to accept lower prices.

Before the opening the teamen fully expected to have to face heavy losses, and they would have been glad to rid themselves of their teas at a slight loss so that they might be able to purchase the later crops at a lower range of price in the interior; this was, however, entirely "knocked on the head" owing to the sharp competition on the part of the foreigners to get the best of a bad crop; and there cannot be any doubt that they were quite satisfied to accept as much as 33 per cent. profit on many of their teas and pay higher rates for the second crop, which they previously wished to avoid.

The only tea out of the first crop which did not show a profit to the native was that called common Congou, probably owing to the fact that it was in such full supply.

After the arrival of the steamer in London some very fair profits were made by the shippers, especially in the best classes of the tea; this was scarcely expected as the quality of the first crop was so much inferior to that of last season, but for some unaccountable reason the London trade took a sudden fancy to Foochow teas, and considered them of better quality than those from the north, a decision quite the reverse of the best judges here. Home buyers concluded that they had the best of a bad crop, and were determined to obtain as much of these kinds as they could at once; the result of this was, that anything pertaining to quality was firmly held by the teamen and commanded its own price.

During the early part of July common Congou was reported to be losing heavily on the London market; this of course had its effect here, and this class was a mere drug on this market; as time advanced, however, a slight firmness manifested itself at home, it being apparent that the lowest point had been reached; the large buyers on this side soon reasserted themselves and a large business took place, with results that cannot have been very cheering to the shippers.

During the same month the second crop teas began to arrive; they were universally declared to be inferior to the same class last season; no anxiety was shown to purchase for some time, with the exception of the pretty

leafed teas; during the entire season these maintained their opening price.

Third crop teas arrived at their usual period, namely, the middle of August, and they also followed in the steps of the previous crops, exhibiting inferiority; nevertheless, a fair business kept progressing, principally for England, the shippers' standpoint being the certainty of a decreased export at the end of the season.

As the season has progressed the quality of the tea has deteriorated, and for the last two or three months nothing but the commonest class has been placed on the market, and the price of this kind in London has been steady.

Towards the beginning of December the stocks unsold stood at 62,200 chests, against 29,600 chests at the same period last year. The teamen at last made up their minds to sell as quickly as possible the remaining stocks, at a loss of 2 taels per picul, or something like 25 per cent., reducing the stocks to small dimensions.

EXCHANGE.

The money market has throughout the past season shown much less activity than during the season of 1880. One reason for this has been the decrease in the first cost of teas up country, only some 3,500,000 dollars having been sent into the interior for advances to the native cultivators, as against 5,500,000 dollars in 1880. This business of advances to the native teamen seems to be steadily falling into the hands of the native banks and financiers, the amount advanced by foreigners for 1881 being less than 10, per cent. of the total amount, as against some 18 per cent. in 1880, and over 40 per cent. in 1876.

Exchange on London has shown but little variation during the year, except early in July, at the time of the Silver Conference in Paris, when the rate for four months' mercantile bills rose to 3s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. With the subsequent reaction on the failure of the Conference negotiations the rate weakened to 3s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., the lowest point touched. Otherwise, the rate has fluctuated steadily between 3s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and 3s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. The average value of the dollar throughout the year has been 3s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., the average exchange for four months' commercial bills 3s. 9d.

The market for sterling is mainly governed by the sterling markets in Hong Kong and Shanghai, which again are ruled by the price of bar-silver in London, the standard of sterling exchange in all countries where silver currency alone exists, such as India and China. There are, of course, local motives, such as an extraordinary activity in the export of teas, a deficiency in the supply of dollars, &c., and among others may be mentioned the amount of treasure imported by the exchange banks early in the season, and later on by the demand for remittances to Shanghai and Hong Kong among the Chinese which is supplied by the drafts of the banks.

The treasure imported and exported during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1881, according to the Customs' Returns, is as follows:—

IMPORTED.					Dollars.
From Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	3,709,180
Swatow ..	..	..	..	..	332,700
Amoy ..	..	..	..	..	313,972
Taiwan-foo	..	..	..	..	1,000
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	461,858
					<hr/> 4,818,710

EXPORTED.

					Dollars.
To Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	1,886,423
Swatow	..	..	..	..	11,190
Amoy	..	..	..	..	51,400
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	330,250
					2,279,263

It has been a feature of this year's trade that almost half the amount has been re-exported, the reason being the sudden and unexpected tightness in the latter half of the year, firstly in the money market at Canton, where Foochow currency of broken dollars sold by weight is accepted, and secondly and later in the year, by a tightness in the Indian money markets, causing a large export of Foochow currency from Hong Kong to the mints of Bombay and Calcutta for the purpose of coinage. Another reason undoubtedly is the decrease in the export and value of teas, which has caused a comparatively less amount of sterling bills to be purchased by the banks than in former years. The very large demand for remittances to Shanghai on Chinese account, estimated at nearly 11,500,000 dollars, has also tended to the same result. This demand, showing so large and steady an increase, would tend to prove a considerable expansion of the trade between this port and the northern parts of the Empire. Last year the estimated amount drawn by banks (native as well as foreign) on Shanghai, did not exceed 9,000,000 dollars. It would be interesting to know in what channels of trade this expansion has taken place.

Mr. Alexander Leith, Agent of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has most obligingly given me the following Table, carefully compared from the Chamber of Commerce circulars for the seasons 1870-71 to 1881-82, showing, firstly, the total export of tea from this port for each season; secondly, the average sterling value per pound of the whole crop; thirdly, the gross sterling value of the whole crop; fourthly, the average rate of exchange (for six months' commercial bills up to and including the season 1878-9, and from thence of four months' commercial bills) for each season; and, lastly, the estimated amount of local currency required to move off the crops.

This Table cannot fail to be of great interest to persons engaged in the tea trade.

It demonstrates the large value of the trade at this port in one article of export alone.

Season.	Total Export.	Average Price per lb.	Sterling Value.	Average Rate of Exchange.	Value.
	Lbs.	s. d.	£	s. d.	Dollars.
1870-71 ..	72,740,000	1 1	3,940,000	4 5½	17,593,000
1871-72 ..	79,140,000	1 2	4,616,500	4 5½	20,855,000
1872-73 ..	81,265,000	1 3½	5,118,000	4 6½	22,533,000
1873-74 ..	77,445,000	1 2	4,517,000	4 4½	20,698,000
1874-75 ..	87,780,000	1 2	5,120,000	4 3½	23,979,000
1875-76 ..	91,670,000	1 2	5,347,500	4 1½	25,862,000
1876-77 ..	87,610,000	1 2½	5,201,500	4 1	25,476,000
1877-78 ..	82,100,000	1 1	4,447,000	4 0	22,235,000
1878-79 ..	99,550,000	1 1½	5,599,000	3 9½	29,533,000
1879-80 ..	98,500,000	1 0½	5,027,500	3 10½	26,088,000
1880-81 ..	110,725,000	1 0½	5,594,000	3 9½	29,506,000
1881-82 ..	97,230,000	0 11	4,456,000	3 9	23,765,000

(Signed)

CHARLES A. SINCLAIR, Consul.

British Consulate, Foochow, December 31, 1881.

HANKOW.

Report on the Trade of Hankow during the Year 1881.

THE total Returns of trade show a considerable increase, but it must always be remembered that for a large proportion of the goods and produce which appear therein this is but a port of call.

As a commercial community the port shows a falling off, and the tendency is, more and more, to shut up the existing hong's out of the tea season, or, if the firm be agent for an important insurance office, to leave the business for ten months of the year in charge of a junior clerk. Even on the tea market, the *raison d'être* of the commercial community at Hankow, there is an effort being made to reduce the importance of the port, and it is vitally interesting to those residents here to watch the struggle going on to transfer the market hence to Shanghai.

This year a larger proportion of the supplies were settled on this market, to wit, 68 per cent. of the supplies against 65 per cent. last year, but there is still a falling off compared with former years.

The presence of the Russian tea factories keeps these large buyers on the spot, and as they give good prices for the finer teas, the Shanghai merchants are obliged to send their agents here to compete for the first crop, and two large English exporters remaining behind a greater number of the crops of the second and third crops were settled on the spot than was thought at the commencement of the season would be likely.

But the struggle to retain the market here is necessarily a hard one, for cheap river freights will always enable the native dealers to place their second and third crops to better advantage on the larger market at Shanghai; and it is the interest of the heads of houses there to have the purchases as much as possible made at a place at which they are themselves resident.

The supplies were very slightly in excess of last year, amounting to 998,695 half-chests, against 997,000 half-chests in 1880; 847,000 half-chests in 1879; and 750,000 half-chests in 1878, but did not reach the figures of 1876, when they amounted to 1,071,000.

There were also more Kiukiang teas settled here than last year, being 224,000 half-chests, against 206,000 half-chests in 1880, and 147,000 in 1877.

But while the total purchases here were larger, the direct shipments were less by 4,000,000 lbs., partly owing to there being less available tonnage (the low freight and numerous disasters of 1880 having deterred ocean steamers from coming in their usual numbers), and partly owing to the greater facilities for forwarding via Shanghai in the alliance of the River and Ocean Companies; and in the coming seasons there is a probability of still greater diminution in the direct export, for, although there is an undoubted advantage in the avoidance of transshipment, the cost and risk of bringing ocean steamers 600 miles up a dangerous river more than counterbalance it.

On the whole, the quality of the teas was poor, consequent on the heavy rains prevailing at the time the tea was picked, and the damage caused by a late frost following extraordinary warm weather at the end of the winter.

Prices for fine teas were as high as last year, the Russians, as usual, bidding for the finest chops; but ordinary teas were somewhat cheaper, and

the lower class teas were sold for less than has been hitherto known, falling at the end of the season to 6½d. per lb., with, it is to be hoped, satisfactory results to the European exporters.

Brick tea was exported to the extent of 191,541 piculs (255,388 lbs.), going as usual via Shanghai and Tien-tsin.

Attempts are being made to establish a route overland, with a view to the supply of the Thibetan markets; but the supply is not likely to increase largely, all available material being bought up and used as it is, and the Thibetan markets will probably be supplied later on from India.

In Manchester goods the Returns show a steady increase, but it is more apparent than real, the goods merely passing through Hankow on the way to the real distributing centre at Chinkiang, and so far as the foreign merchants are concerned the year would show, as noted last year, a continued decrease in the goods brought here in foreign hands for sale in the local market.

The cheap fares charged by the river steamers, the larger market in which to supply their wants, better financial facilities, and the varied attractions of Shanghai make the up-country dealers proceed there in preference to attempting to lay in stocks here; and although attempts have been made to attract them to the still-existing local foreign agencies by the offer of goods at Shanghai rates, it has been, so far, without success.

To deal with the individual figures therefore, save in regard of opium and some few other articles, would be but to go over ground better dealt with at Shanghai and Ichang.

Nor is there prospect of recovery until the introduction of railways again makes this the great commercial centre it was in the old days of China's history. For years to come, so far as the import trade is concerned, foreigners can only hope for an ever-decreasing and merely nominal interest.

In opium, the Tables show a net import of 3,922.94 piculs (5,230.59 lbs.), of a value of 2,442,006 taels (691,901*l.* 14*s.*), against an import of 2,952.95 piculs (3,937.27 lbs.), of a value of 441,555*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* last year.

This increase is chiefly to be attributed to the reports, that the import duty and *li-kin* were to be largely increased, and the desire to lay in stocks before the new arrangements came into force rather than to any increased demand, for although the price at one time went up very largely and rapidly, on the report reaching Hankow that the increased import duty had been agreed to, the average rates have been normal, or, if anything, lower than in former years, and it is stated that the consumption, so far as can be observed, is less than heretofore in the increased amount of native drug in the market.

The bulk of the import is Malwa, though it is noticeable that while this shows 3,124 piculs against 1,905 four years ago, or not quite double the quantity, Patua has trebled its import in the same time, rising from 218 piculs in 1878 to 780 this year.

The import of Persian opium has gone down to what it was in 1878, 18 piculs only, and it would appear from inquiries I have made, unknown in the local market, as distinct from Malwa.

In kerosine oil, there is a small falling off on the enormous import of last year, but it is still double what it was in 1879, and four times what it was in 1878, and the actual consumption is steadily increasing. Difficulties in regard of the transport and storage are probably the reason of the decrease, but until the petroleum wells known to exist farther up the river are worked, as they probably will be before many years, and this part of China is supplied from its own resources, there will be a continually increasing demand.

And so also with matches of which the Tables show an import of

372,128 gross. A law protecting trade-marks is much needed in connection with this article, the market being flooded with vile imitations of Bryant and May's unrivalled productions; but good or bad, the Chinese find them better than nothing, and the days of flint and steel are past.

There is also a constantly-increasing demand for the miscellaneous articles of foreign manufacture, toys, tools, pencils, pictures, ornaments, umbrellas, cutlery, sham jewellery, soap, &c., which form the stock-in-trade of the general store, dozens of which are established in the streets of Hankow and the cities of Wuchang and Hanyang for the supply of natives, but, as with cotton goods, they obtain their supplies at the Shanghai auctions, and the trade locally is entirely in native hands. One foreign watchmaker has for years attempted to make a living as agent for Genevan and American watch and clock makers, but only with the result of finding himself overwhelmed with debt as the reward of his enterprise.

Of general exports, the trade in hemp, or China grass, has trebled in the course of the year, showing 226,261 piculs, against an average of 75,000 piculs in the three preceding years. Whether the foreign demand will be permanent, or whether the export is but a revival of the disastrous speculation of years past, remains to be seen. The material can, it has been shown, be worked into very beautiful fabrics, but it is said that it is too costly, from its bulk, to compete with home products in the home markets. In the meantime, however, it gives the foreign agents here a living in the shape of commissions.

The trade in hides also continues steady both for export to Europe, which is practicable now that exporters have learnt to preserve the hides and reduce the bulk of the bales by hydraulic pressure, and for the supply of the Shanghai tanneries.

Nut-galls show a slight falling-off, but not a very important one; and there is a satisfactory increase in the export of vegetable wax, which is becoming an important article of export.

In medicines foreigners are interested solely in musk and rhubarb, the former of which shows a considerable falling-off owing to the want of any one on the spot gifted with sufficient knowledge to distinguish what parcels could be bought with profit.

In tobacco, owing to the losses on the export last year, there is a falling-off, some account sales which passed through my hands in connection with a deceased estate showing the speculation to have been ruinous, even making allowance for the fact that an apparent loss may often be a real profit; but I am informed that profits have been made this year, and as the leaf is of good quality, it will eventually become a staple export.

Szechuen silk to the extent of 6,400 piculs appears in the Returns, but the market for this is Shanghai, and it only passes through this port.

The Shipping Returns show a large increase in the number of ocean steamers under the Chinese flag, consequent on the return of the troops sent hence last year, the native Company's vessels having been employed to bring them back from the north. The service was well carried out, and the troops were landed, disbanded and sent to their homes in the interior with surprising celerity and ease.

Two vessels of the Russian Volunteer Fleet came for tea for Russia direct, and two German vessels were employed in like manner, and it is probable that for some time at least these flags will have a monopoly of this branch of the trade, there being practically at present no competition on the part of English houses in the supply of the Russian markets via Odessa.

A new ocean line was to have been started this year between this port and the Amoor, but there does not seem to be any very strong desire t

commence operations. When established, if the difficulties of navigation in the fog-bound rocky approaches to the Amoor do not prove insuperable, the line will probably eventually be to some extent availed of, but there is certain loss to those interested in the commencement, and the local Russian merchants prefer to send their teas by the established routes *viâ* Tien-tsin and overland, or by sea *viâ* Odessa.

Of the carrying trade direct to Great Britain the British flag has the monopoly, and I should not be surprised to see the "Glen," "Castle," and "Holt" lines eventually getting it into their own hands.

This year the first steamer to leave was the "Glencoe," which obtained 6*l.* per ton, followed by the "Loudoun Castle" at 5*l.* per ton, and the "Glenfruin" at 4*l.*, the subsequent rates averaging 3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.* per ton of 40 feet.

The sailing vessels visiting the port are limited to lorchas, and I should be glad to see the proportion flying the British flag still smaller than it is, as, with few exceptions, the foreigners on whose declaration of ownership the vessels' registers are granted have no real interest whatever in them, they being almost invariably Chinese owned.

A foreigner is paid a sum of money, generally, I believe, about 100 dollars, to swear that the vessel is his, giving at the time a mortgage on the vessel to more than her value. Another foreigner is given 40 or 50 dollars a-month as nominal captain; a third foreigner is given 10 dollars per trip to enter and clear the lorcha, and come forward if there is trouble with the custom-house, and there the foreign interest in this class of boat as a rule ends. They are navigated and managed entirely by Chinese, and on Chinese behalf.

And so also with the chartered junks: to escape the visitation of the native custom-house, and avoid the dues to which they would otherwise be liable, the owners pay a foreigner a sum varying from 38 to 80 dollars to pretend to charter them, and thus obtain them a *quasi*-foreign character. Happily, the strictness that has been exercised at this Consulate in examining into these professed charter parties has had a deterrent effect, and the abuse of our flag has almost disappeared.

(Signed)

CHAS. ALABASTER, *Consul.*

*British Consulate,
Hankow, April 2, 1882.*

Tables attached to Mr. Alabaster's Trade Report for Hankow, 1881.

1. Export of Tea.
 2. Comparative Statement of Export Trade.
 3. Comparative Statement of Import Trade.
 4. Imports of Treasure and Copper Cash.
 5. Imports of Opium.
 6. Shipping Table.
 7. Values of the Trade of the Port.
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(No. 1.)—TEA Imported and Re-exported during the Year 1881.

Destination.	Hankow Tea.				Kinliang Tea.				Wuhu Tea.				Tea, sundry.				Total.		
	Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.	Value.	
	Pic.	c.	H. taels.		Pic.	c.	H. taels.		Pic.	c.	H. taels.		Pic.	c.	H. taels.				
To foreign countries—																			
Great Britain ..	150,856	88	2,976,565		65,032	14	1,300,660		252	09	5,070		276	12	5,550		216,416	73	4,287,845
Odessa . . .	39,746	96	794,960		11,378	03	227,610		..	..	..		..	..	..		51,124	99	1,022,570
Total ..	190,603	34	3,771,525		76,410	17	1,528,270		252	09	5,070		276	12	5,550		267,541	72	5,310,415
To Chinese Ports—																			
Kinliang ..	..	0 39	..	18	128	37	2,570		..	..	..		..	..	..		128	37	2,570
Chinkiang ..	310,110	45	3,790,900		..	..	..		..	..	..		..	..	..		0	39	18
Shanghai ..	..	..	..	..	24,092	96	460,167		18	69	352		48	32	970		334,270	42	4,252,389
Ningpo . . .	..	1 00	9		..	..	..		..	..	..		..	..	..		1	00	9
Total ..	310,111	84	3,790,927		24,221	33	462,737		18	69	352		48	32	970		334,400	18	4,254,986
Grand total ..	500,715	18	7,562,452		100,631	50	1,991,007		270	78	5,422		324	44	6,520		601,941	90	9,565,401
Brick Tea.																			
Destination.				Black.				Green.				Total.							
				Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.		Value.					
				Pic.	c.	H. taels.		Pic.	c.	H. taels.		Pic.	c.	H. taels.					
To Siberia via Shanghai and Tien-tsin ..				143,592	81	805,847		47,949	04	244,993		191,541	85	1,050,840					

EXPORT TRADE.

(No. 2).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade for the Years 1878 to 1881.

Description of Goods.		1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Dye stuff	Piculs	8,181 45	9,734 21	8,930 85	12,390 26
Fungus	"	14,653 85	13,479 12	13,739 11	18,302 36
Gypsum	"	61,283 00	112,173 74	116,675 00	116,794 00
Hemp	"	73,019 82	72,701 60	77,845 15	226,261 93
Hides, cow	"	35,265 26	21,063 32	22,288 88	26,265 99
Lily flowers, dried ...	"	8,488 50	20,973 64	10,085 93	10,270 82
Medicines	"	94,808 23	109,255 80	118,791 34	120,168 39
Musk	"	32 32	31 95	32 85	19 23
Nankeens	"	3,554 85	3,752 63	3,450 07	3,966 15
Nutgalls	"	21,742 53	28,391 82	25,664 20	22,778 36
Oil, wood	"	336,052 94	203,820 63	261,544 76	269,287 97
Opium, Szechuen	"	880 86	120 08	927 46	3,064 18
Paper	"	12,784 94	13,078 34	11,586 08	12,231 86
Rhubarb—					
Shensi	"	2,697 11	3,660 97	3,369 69	4,012 12
Szechuen	"	5,245 03	3,389 77	3,376 08	2,093 03
Safflower	"	6,543 90	5,152 47	4,914 76	3,982 31
Silk, Szechuen	"	3,257 24	6,849 78	7,471 33	6,413 40
Steel	"	5,869 95	5,323 45	3,455 26	3,069 40
Tallow, vegetable	"	89,269 16	90,413 64	102,166 13	103,233 82
Tea—					
Black	"	365,223 30	423,161 63	517,263 29	500,715 18
Kiukiang	"	90,256 73	111,831 91	98,781 17	100,631 50
" Wuhu	"	177 73	1,493 14	643 44	270 78
" sundry	"	36 43	218 33	541 41	324 44
" brick	"	101,695 08	144,756 26	152,339 05	143,593 81
Green	"	15,946 36	25,650 80	15,936 65	47,949 04
Tobacco	"	111,312 55	121,273 92	138,883 40	109,105 01
Wax, white	"	5,316 13	6,913 44	8,891 94	13,765 28
Varnish	"	5,796 51	6,488 18	6,150 31	7,663 97

IMPORT TRADE.

(No. 3).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Net Import Trade for the Years 1878 to 1881.

Description of Goods.		1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Cotton goods—					
Shirts, grey	Pieces	914,065	1,411,168	1,334,904	1,587,187
" white	"	151,638	253,997	326,991	465,979
T-cloths	"	333,042	434,886	462,554	431,504
Drills	"	174,247	283,617	231,284	216,225
Sheetings	"	37,825	40,496	89,730	120,710
Chintzes	"	38,403	50,707	55,150	83,174
Brocades	"	7,299	10,230	9,275	10,746
Damasks	"	5,023	6,091	5,336	6,273
Velvets and velveteens ...	"	21,496	19,049	25,090	27,339
Woolen goods—					
Lustres	"	43,201	56,096	53,595	65,669
Camlets	"	47,155	57,106	58,293	81,366
Cloths, medium, &c. ...	"	16,591	20,353	16,429	22,056
Lastings	"	22,564	31,957	29,053	39,878
Long ells	"	50,730	69,340	44,038	53,500
Spanish stripes	"	10,633	13,582	12,540	14,271
Metals—					
Iron, nail-rod	Piculs	23,611 65	26,019 17	30,162 06	48,333 97
Lead	"	29,726 85	19,450 32	22,335 40	49,312 76
Tin	"	2,944 84	3,251 36	3,705 06	3,689 43
Quicksilver	"	876 77	2,146 28	1,190 32	1,323 40
Opium—					
Malwa	"	1,905 00	2,678 62	2,303 64	3,124 39
Benares	"	1 20	...	4 80	...
Patna	"	218 63	579 22	584 51	780 55
Persian	"	17 43	36 00	61 00	96 00
Sundries—					
Cotton, raw	"	143,638 87	150,893 66	375,648 90	10,806 50
Cuttle fish	"	16,693 63	22,138 46	20,741 24	25,842 74
Matches	Gross	129,527	274,933	324,317	372,128
Medicines	Piculs	33,425 12	38,816 40	40,347 83	49,944 84
Oil, kerosene	Gallons	76,370	149,320	285,157	260,400
Pepper	Piculs	21,801 33	25,054 71	21,349 74	29,057 44
Sandal wood	"	19,211 50	15,582 49	21,855 33	24,529 37
Sapan wood	"	19,120 24	35,263 22	27,099 60	30,231 96
Seaweed	"	101,853 78	126,295 99	101,573 24	145,326 84
Silk piece goods	"	1,150 40	1,261 94	1,363 77	1,487 17
Sugar, brown	"	198,753 08	179,886 76	207,653 32	169,587 04
" white	"	85,157 82	105,080 50	100,114 15	113,972 05
Tea (imported)	"	1,174 16	1,223 79	58 61	844 34

(No. 4.)—TREASURE and Copper Cash Imported and Exported during the Year 1881.

IMPORTED.

Port.	Copper Cash.	Sycee.	Gold Bars.	Total.
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Ichang .. ..	..	3,150	500	3,650
Kiukiang	325	122,400	..	122,725
Wu-hu	1,296	12,400	..	13,716
Chinkiang	94,095.	17,325	..	111,420
Shanghai	3,900	4,994,374	..	4,998,274
Total	99,616	5,149,669	500	5,249,785

EXPORTED.

Port.	Copper Cash.	Sycee.	Gold Bars.	Total.
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Ichang	1,300	..	1,300
Kiukiang	1,269,100	..	1,269,100
Wu-hu
Chinkiang	1,800	..	1,800
Shanghai	310,174	18,396	328,570
Total	1,582,374	18,396	1,600,770

(No. 5.)—Gross and Net Importation of Opium during the Year 1881.

Description.	Gross Import.		Re-export.		Net Total.	
	Pic. c.	H. Taels.	Pic. c.	H. Taels.	Pic. c.	H. Taels.
Malwa	3,213 95	1,633,083	89 56	45,702	3,124 39	1,587,381
Patna	806 95	859,617	26 40	11,933	780 55	847,685
Periana	20 00	7,600	2 00	660	18 00	6,940
Total	4,040 90	2,500,300	117 96	58,294	3,922 94	2,442,006

(No. 6.)—SHIPPING

Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag for the Year ended 31st December, 1881.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.						Total.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British steamers—												
River	262	226,363	..	..	262	226,363	260	224,104	..	..	260	224,104
Ocean	2	3,642	9	14,093	11	17,735	11	17,735	..	..	11	17,735
Chinese steamers—												
River	159	165,843	1	340	160	166,183	154	162,584	6	3,599	160	166,183
Ocean	..	..	23	16,278	23	16,278	..	..	23	16,278	23	16,278
German steamers	..	1,115	1	1,170	2	2,285	2	2,285	..	..	2	2,285
Russian steamers	..	..	2	4,315	2	4,315	2	4,315	..	..	2	4,315
Total steamers	424	396,963	36	36,196	460	433,159	429	411,023	29	19,877	458	430,900
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	918	864,059

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.				Total.			
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		In Ballast.				Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
American lorchas .	53	7,896	1	247	54	8,143	..	7,549	51	7,549	105	15,692
British „	38	7,637	..	..	38	7,637	..	7,327	37	7,327	75	14,964
British hulks, under special pass	..	..	1	40	1	40	1	40	1	40	2	80
Denish lorchas ..	1	131	..	..	1	131	..	262	2	262	3	393
German „	9	1,402	..	..	9	1,402	..	1,552	10	1,552	19	2,954
Spanish „	23	3,914	..	..	23	3,914	..	3,890	23	3,890	46	7,804
Chinese junks chartered by foreigners	34	2,662	..	..	34	2,662	..	8,627	93	8,627	127	11,289
Total sailing vessels	158	23,642	2	287	160	23,929	1	40	216	29,207	217	29,247
	..										377	53,176

TOTAL SAILING VESSELS AND STEAMERS.

American ..	53	7,896	1	247	54	8,143	51	7,549	..	..	51	7,549	105	15,692
British ..	302	237,642	10	14,133	312	251,775	308	249,166	1	40	309	249,206	621	500,981
Chinese ..	193	168,505	24	16,618	217	185,123	247	171,211	29	19,877	276	191,088	493	376,211
Danish ..	1	131	..	..	1	131	2	262	..	..	2	262	3	393
German ..	10	2,517	1	1,170	11	3,687	12	3,837	..	..	12	3,837	23	7,524
Russian ..	..	..	2	4,315	2	4,315	2	4,315	..	..	2	4,315	4	8,630
Spanish ..	23	3,914	..	..	23	3,914	23	3,890	..	..	23	3,890	46	7,804
Grand total ..	582	420,605	38	36,483	620	457,088	645	440,230	30	19,917	675	466,147	1,296	917,236

(No. 7.)—Gross and Net Values of the Trade of Hankow, 1879 to 1881.

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
<i>Foreign Goods.</i>						
Imported from foreign countries and Hong Kong	8,545		27,841		1,941	
Imported from Chinese ports	10,960,482		13,303,494		16,171,652	
Total foreign imports	..	10,969,027	..	13,331,335	..	16,173,593
Re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	..	..
Re-exported to Chinese ports (chiefly Shanghai and Ichang)	..	..	1,144,219	..	947,199	..
Total foreign re-exports	..	..	1,144,219	..	947,199	..
Net total foreign imports	10,714,216	..	12,187,116	..	15,226,394	..
<i>Native Produce.</i>						
Imported (chiefly from Shanghai)	..	8,795,261	..	13,513,967	..	9,073,075
Re-exported to foreign countries	2,582,353	..	2,544,638	..	1,538,890	..
Re-exported to Chinese ports	973,409	..	1,520,807	..	994,401	..
Total native re-exports	3,555,762	..	4,065,445	..	2,533,291	..
Net total native imports	5,239,499	..	9,448,522	..	6,539,784	..
Native produce of local origin exported to foreign countries.	4,510,462	..	5,099,638	..	3,775,525	..
Native produce of local origin exported to Chinese ports..	15,730,317	..	15,549,933	..	16,057,888	..
Total exports of local origin	..	20,240,779	..	20,649,571	..	19,833,413
Gross value of the trade of the port .. ..	..	40,005,067	..	47,494,873	..	45,080,081
Net value of the trade of the port (i.e., foreign and native imports, less re-exports, and native exports of local origin)	36,194,494		42,285,209		41,599,591	

ICHANG.

Report on the Trade of Ichang for the Year 1881.

Acting Consul Spence to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Ichang, April 15, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose my Report on the trade of this port for the year 1881.

In a previous despatch I informed your Lordship that I had taken the opportunity of my recent journey to Chungking to make inquiries regarding the cultivation of native opium in the Province of Szechuan. The result of these is embodied in this Report, and to that section of it I take the liberty of requesting your Lordship's attention. On the extent and conditions of opium culture in Western China, on the attitude of the Chinese Government thereto, and on the effect of opium-smoking on the people of the provinces where the habit is all but universal, my Report will be found, I think, to throw considerable light.

I have transmitted a copy of it direct to Calcutta, for the information of Her Majesty's Indian Government.

The small sum of 12 dollars, expended by me in procuring information, I have paid from my fixed quarterly allowance in the March quarter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE.

Inclosure.

Report.

THE statistics of the trade of Ichang during 1881, that is, of the trade passing through the Maritime Customs, are given in the following Tables appended to this Report:—

1. Direct Trade with British Empire and Foreign Countries.
2. Indirect Trade (Coast and River).
3. Shipping.
4. Foreign Goods imported.
5. Native Produce imported.
6. Native Produce exported.

The great increase in the trade of 1880 over previous years has not been maintained. The total value for last year is only 1,523,005 taels, as against 2,094,898 taels in 1880. This decline is due to one cause only, to be presently explained, and is common to all branches of trade, as will be seen at a glance from this Table:—

				1881.	1880.
				Taels.	Taels.
Imports of foreign goods	..	..	..	885,482	1,010,756
Imports of native produce	..	..	..	149,728	225,089
Exports	..	..	..	487,795	859,053
Transit trade	..	..	..	1,237,808	1,679,183

The revenue of the port has fallen in like proportion, being but 45,687 taels, against 68,627 taels in 1880.

In my Report for 1880 I pointed out that the trade of Ichang is simply a carrying trade in imports destined for, and exports from, the Province of Szechuan, that it is of great extent, and that its transfer from junks to steamers would not be accomplished until steam communication was maintained regularly throughout the year between Hankow and this port. The large increase in the trade of 1880 was caused by the running of a small steamer several trips during the winter of 1879-80, and the decrease in the trade of last year is the result of the withdrawal of the steamer during the winter of 1880-81. At the risk of repetition, I must add that, so long as steam communication is maintained between Ichang and Hankow only during the summer months, the trade of the port will never increase. With regular steamers, trade would increase with great rapidity.

SHIPPING.

The China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company is the only shipping line represented here at present. A small steamer, of about 450 tons, arrived here on the 26th April, and continued to make two or three trips a month up to the end of September, when she was replaced for a time by a larger boat. In the end of October regular communication ceased. The great shipping trade between Szechuan and the East is at its height in winter and spring, when the water is low and the rapids easy to contend with. During the summer and autumn freshets it ceases altogether, commencing again when the river begins to fall. Consequently it will be seen that the running of a steamer between Hankow and Ichang in summer only cannot be profitable. On the Upper Yang-tsze trade is almost at a standstill for three months, and it is not brisk for four more. These are the months in which the steamer plies to Ichang, while during five months of bustle and activity on the river it is withdrawn. The Chinese Company are aware of the folly of existing arrangements, and during the past twelve months they showed some anxiety to amend them. Failing to purchase a suitable steamer in Japan, they cut down their regular boat at considerable expense, and lessened her draught a few inches. Thus altered, she ran two trips last winter, without cargo, as an experiment, but she did not prove suitable to the conditions of the river at that season, and was withdrawn. The winter of 1881-82 sees Ichang cut off again, during the height of the junk traffic, from the lower river ports. What is required is a steamer that will carry 500 tons of cargo on a draught of 4 feet at a speed of 11 knots. Such a vessel running summer and winter would find most remunerative employment. I have put myself in communication with more than one of our leading British shipping firms on this subject, but, so far, my facts and figures have failed to induce them to get the requisite steamer, and to extend their operations to Ichang. An excellent shipping trade is going a-begging. During the year there has been some talk in foreign shipping circles in China of steam navigation to Chungking. To this subject I have alluded in

another part of my Report; but I may here state my opinion that the first step to that end is regular steam traffic between Ichang and Hankow. Until that is uninterrupted, the commercial success of a line to Chungking begging for a moment the question of its practicability, would be impossible, and the enterprise Quixotic. The only other important facts I have to notice in connection with shipping are that 4 taels per ton has been proved to be a prohibitive rate of freight during summer; and that last winter, in the absence of steamers, a considerable quantity of cargo was exported in chartered junks.

IMPORTS.

The import of cotton piece-goods has fallen off from 260,000 pieces in 1880 to 228,000 pieces in 1881. A decline in the consumption of piece-goods in Szechuan must not be argued from this, the cause being, as I have shown, purely local. The only variety of cotton fabrics which shows an increase is that of English sheetings, and although the increase is relatively large, and accompanied by a decrease in American sheetings, the figures are too small to form a basis for safe conclusions. Woollen goods, on the contrary, have increased from 24,000 to 27,000 pieces. The more valuable makes, such as Russian cloth, show a falling-off. A small quantity of foreign opium has been imported, 2 piculs 40 c., so small as to be no exception to the rule that in the provinces of China where opium-smoking is most prevalent, Indian opium is known only as a delicious but unattainable luxury. The important subject of native opium will be treated more appropriately under the heading of exports. Kerosine oil is largely imported both for local consumption and for transhipment to Szechuan, but as it is not carried by steamer it does not appear in the import list. Its sale inside large cities like Chungking is forbidden. The prohibition does not affect the trade in it, much of the business portion of Chinese cities being outside the city walls. Imports of native produce call for no special notice.

EXPORTS.

The cause which has produced a decline in imports has equally affected exports. Yellow silk, the most important Szechuan product exported by way of Ichang, has declined a-half. The capabilities of the province for the production of silk are very great; except, however, at very low prices, it is unsaleable in Europe, so dirty and uneven is it. Mr. Baber estimates the total production at about 42,000 piculs annually. Of this, 14,000 piculs come from the districts of Chiating Fu, 17,800 piculs from Hsi Chung, the balance from other parts. The value of this out-turn is about 7,000,000 taels, and one-third of it is exported to the north and east. The export and consumption of Szechuan white wax are falling off, but not, as yet, in proportion to the falling-off in production. The cause is the yearly increasing use all over China of kerosine oil for lighting purposes. Tea, as yet, finds no place amongst Ichang exports, the growers in Szechuan confining their attention to local and Thibetan markets. Green tea is produced close to Ichang; but the inexperienced cultivators do not know how to make "hung," or "black" tea. About 10,000 piculs are annually produced near the village of Lo Tienchi in this district. The plants are picked once a-year only; the leaves are dried over stoves so quickly that tea picked in the morning can be used at night. The total volume of the exports of Szechuan produce to the east cannot be much less than 40,000,000 taels per annum. Of this, 25,000,000 taels is represented by salt and opium; but a goodly part of the remainder will be shipped from Ichang when adequate shipping facilities are available at all seasons.

Of all the products of Szechuan, the most important now-a-days is—

NATIVE OPIUM.

In September last year it was my fortune to be sent on the public service to the commercial metropolis of Szechuan, Chungking. I was four months in the province. In the course of that time I visited parts of the great opium country, questioned many people regarding opium culture, consumption, and export, and carefully noted the observations and conclusions on these subjects come to by Mr. Colborne Baber and Mr. E. H. Parker during their official residence there, with a view to giving, as far as possible, exact information in my Trade Report on a matter of great commercial, and no little political, interest at the present moment.

1. *Where cultivated.*—The cultivation of the poppy is carried on in every district of Szechuan except those on the west frontier, but most of all in the Prefectures of Chungking Fu and Kweichow Fu. In all the districts of Chungking Fu, south of the Yang-tsze, and in some of the districts of Kweichow Fu, north of that river, it is the principal crop, and, in parts, the only winter crop for scores upon scores of square miles. The head-quarters of the trade are at the city of Fuchow, in the first of these Prefectures, and, in a considerably less degree, at Fengtu, a district city in Kweichow Fu. Baron Richthofen, writing in 1872, says that the poppy then was cultivated only on hill slopes of an inferior soil, but one sees it now on land of all kinds, both hill and valley. Baron Richthofen himself anticipates this change when he says: "The Government may at some time or other reduce the very heavy restrictions, and if Szechuan opium then should be able to command its present price at Hankow, the consequence would be an immediate increase in the area planted with the poppy." Since he wrote, the area given to the poppy has much increased, though not from the cause alleged. Being a winter crop, it does not interfere with rice, the food staple of the people, displacing only subsidiary crops, such as wheat, beans, and the like. When it is planted in paddy and bottom lands, which, now-a-days, is often the case, it is gathered in time to allow rice or some other crop to follow. It can hardly be said of Szechuan that the cultivation of opium seriously interferes with food supplies. The supply of rice remains the same, and the opium produced, less the value of the crops it replaces, is so much additional wealth to the province.

2. *Tenure of Opium Lands.*—Opium lands, like other lands in Szechuan, are either owned by the cultivator or held in metayer tenure by tenant farmers—the farmer paying a proportion of the summer crop as rent. This latter is by far the most common form in the neighbourhood of towns, the wealthy inhabitants of which invest their money in land. Large estates are not uncommon, and much land is held by Buddhist temples, corporations, and gentry as trustees to charitable, family ("gens"), or public uses. The incidents attaching to metayer tenure in Szechuan are, in brief, these:—At the commencement of the lease the tenant deposits with the landlord a sum of money as security for the rent, which, when the tenancy determines, is returned to him. Leases may or may not be in writing; in general, they specify no time, and are understood to run from year to year. Their practical effect is to give, as in England, a permanent lease to the tenant. The Government land tax is paid by the owner or his assigns, and is never paid by the tenant. The tenant's existence, for purposes of taxation, is not recognized by the Government. Rent being paid on the summer crop only, the winter crop is the tenant's great source of profit, and it is this fact which makes the question of tenure important in connection with opium cultivation. As I shall presently show, opium is a more remunerative crop than its only possible substitutes, beans or wheat, and no percentage of the opium crop being due to the landlord, its culti-

vation has been greatly stimulated in consequence. Of late years, however, in the districts I have named as being in winter one vast poppy field, owners of land have become alive to the value to occupiers of the opium crop, and have stipulated for a share of it in addition to their share of the summer crop. Rents, in fact, where opium is in universal cultivation, have practically doubled. Before leaving the subject of tenure, I may add that in the event of non-payment of rent from causes other than deficient harvests, the landlord helps himself to the deposit in his hands. In bad years remissions are willingly made by the Government to owners of the land-tax, and by owners to occupiers of the rent-produce.

3. *Wheat and Opium Crops compared.*—The question of the pecuniary advantage of opium over wheat receives a short and somewhat erroneous notice from Baron Richthofen. He assumes that 30 oz. is a good crop of opium from a *mow* of land, that is, 200 oz. per acre. In this he is far under the mark. Mr. Baber, after one may say years of observation, takes it to be more than double that amount. However, when Richthofen wrote, opium was apparently cultivated on poor land only, getting little attention and no manure, but now-a-days it is grown on good land carefully manured, and, under such conditions, it produces, as far as I could ascertain, an average amount only a little less than Mr. Baber's estimate. It must be remembered, too, that every single part of the poppy plant has a market value. The capsules, after the juice has been extracted, are sold to druggists and made into medicine; oil is expressed from the seeds, and largely used for lighting and adulterating edible oils; the oil-cake left in the oil-press is good manure, as are also the leaves; and the stalks are burnt for potash. Against these advantages opium is subject to a rent, and requires, for profitable cultivation, plenty of manure; whereas wheat, where followed by a summer crop, pays little or no rent and gets in general no manure. Into the relative profits of opium and wheat both Mr. Baber and Mr. Parker have gone very carefully, and their results correspond, in the main, with my own observations. The following are Mr. Baber's figures:—A piece of land, 100 feet square, will give 90 oz. of opium or 330 catties of wheat, the former worth 8·5 taels and the latter worth 4·2 taels. Calculated in English money and acres, 1 acre will give 408 oz. of opium or 1,600 lbs. of wheat, the opium being worth 153s. and the wheat only 75s. The out-turn of opium may be here slightly over-estimated, but the very best case is stated for wheat, as Mr. Baber allows 26½ bushels to the acre and 23s. a quarter for its market price, both excessive estimates, in my opinion. To 153s., the value of the opium, is to be added 20s. an acre for oil, capsules, and other poppy products, but this may fairly be set against the expenses of manure and extra labour opium cultivation requires. So that the advantage of opium over wheat, though not so overwhelming as I estimated it to be in my Report last year, is still very great, leaving abundant margin for the payment of rent. My own figures give an average of 350 oz. of opium per acre, but as I put the yield of wheat and its market price at a much lower rate than Mr. Baber, I obtain the same ratio in the value of the two crops. Opium, then, is twice as valuable a crop to the farmer, where he is owner, as wheat, and, where he is occupier, the advantage will depend on his rent. In districts remote from market towns, or hill country, the advantage of opium over wheat is much greater, because the cost of carrying wheat to a market is higher than that of opium.

* 1 acre = 6·66 Chinese mow.

1,550 cash = 1 tael = 5s. 6d.

10 mace = 1 ounce = 1½ ounce avoirdupois.

16 ounces = 1 catty = 1½ lb. avoirdupois.

100 catties = 1 picul = 133 lbs.

4. *Poppy Cultivation*.—The poppy is now grown on all kinds of land, hill slopes, terraced fields, paddy and bottom lands in the valleys. Since 1872, when Baron Richthofen visited the province, a great change has taken place in this respect, for it appears to have been cultivated then on hill lands only. All the country people whom I asked were agreed that opium is most profitably grown on good land with liberal manuring. In India it is best grown on rich soil near villages where manure can be easily obtained, and the Szechuan cultivator has found this out for himself. Poppy cultivation, as practised in Szechuan, is very simple. As soon as the summer crop is reaped the land is ploughed and cleaned, roots and weeds are heaped and burnt and the ashes scattered over the ground; dressings of night soil are liberally given. The seeds are sown in December, in drills $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. In January, when the plants are a few inches high, the rows are thinned, and earthed up so as to leave a free passage between each; the plants are then left to take care of themselves, the earth round them being occasionally stirred up and kept clear of weeds. In March or April, according to situation, the poppy blooms. In the low grounds the white poppy is by far the most common, but red and purple are also grown. As the capsules form and fill dressings of liquid manure are given. In April and May the capsules are slit and the juice extracted. The raw juice evaporates into the crude opium of commerce, increasing in value as it decreases in weight.

5. *Taxation and Government Interference*.—Government interference with the cultivation ceased some fifteen years ago, and long before that time it had been ineffective and fitful. When the present Governor-General Ting Kung-pao assumed office in 1878 he issued one of the most extraordinary Proclamations on the subject that have ever appeared in China. Beginning by denouncing the poppy growth, and by ordering the destruction of the growing crop, it went on to say that native opium did not bear its fair share of local burdens, and that in future a *li-kin* of 3 per cent. *ad valorem*, amounting to 4.8 taels for 1,000 oz., would have to be paid, instead of 3 taels as before. Mr. Baber very justly remarks of this Proclamation that it was not seriously intended to put down cultivation, it was seriously intended to raise the *li-kin*. The gentry of the province sent a deputation to his Excellency, shortly after the appearance of the document, to find whether anything was meant by it, and, if necessary, to warn the Governor-General of the danger of disturbing an industry so beneficial to the province. No remonstrances on their part were required, for they were assured that the Proclamations were in all cases accompanied by private instructions to district officials to confine their attention to the increase in *li-kin*, and, if possible, to prevent opium being planted along the main post roads. The *li-kin* was raised and remains at 4.8 taels for 1,000 oz., but the Proclamation did not have, and probably was not meant to have, any further effect. The cultivation went on increasing just as usual, along post roads as anywhere else, and to-day the poppies bloom close up to the walls of some of the principal cities, along high roads, over hill and dale, and the cultivation, so far as officials are concerned, is unfettered, free, and open to all. There is no system of excise, and no taxation of any kind on either producers or on the product *in situ*. Beyond the land tax, and its supplementary burdens, which fall equally on all land in cultivation, and are levied on the owners thereof, opium not in transit pays nothing to the State, and the rural opium-smoker smokes the untaxed product of his district. The opium revenue of the Government is derived from *li-kin* on opium in transit from one part of the province to another at the rate of 3 per cent. *ad valorem*, and from barrier dues on opium in transit to the east amounting, in the aggregate, to from 30 to 40 taels a picul, according to route. Very

little opium, however, pays as much as this. At Fuchow the *li-kin* officials reported an export eastward in 1879 of 40,000 piculs of duty-paid opium. It is greater now, and, in all probability, not less than 1,000,000 taels are received yearly from opium dues at this city. At Fêngtu, the centre of an opium country of much less extent than Fuchow, opium *li-kin* produced in 1880 twelve times as much as it did only a few years ago. Formerly only 12,000 taels a-year was received, but latterly over 160,000 taels have been collected in a year. There are many market towns, too, where, at periodic fairs as much as 500,000 or 600,000 taels of opium changes hands, and where *li-kin* is received; and there are other barriers where opium for the east and north is mulcted. So that, allowing a large margin for the expense of collection and other more questionable appropriations, the Szechuan provincial exchequer benefits by opium to an extent not short of 1,500,000 taels per annum.

6. *Smuggling*.—The Szechuan dues, though not excessive as opium taxation goes, are a sufficiently onerous burden to make smuggling prevalent and profitable. Of the amount of the contraband trade eastward it is difficult to make even a guess. The *li-kin* officials at Fuchow estimate it to be nearly as much as the duty paid in their districts. At other places it is supposed to be more. In my last year's Trade Report I showed how common smuggling was amongst all classes of travellers. As additional evidence that, occasionally, the very highest officials in the Empire are not above a little opium smuggling, I may state that when, a year or two ago, the Commander-in-chief of one of the neighbouring provinces was transferred to a southern command, his personal luggage on passing this port consisted of four large passenger junk loads of Szechuan and Yunnan opium, which he sold in the east for over 300,000 taels. He is the author of many Proclamations to his troops on the frontier on the degrading habit of opium-smoking.

7. *Transit Eastward*.—Szechuan opium is not exported by the great highway of the Yang-tze, and the Szechuan Yang-tze barrier at Kweichow gets no revenue from it. A duty of 30 taels per picul at that barrier, irrespective of the amount of dues paid at stations further west, and a second duty of a similar amount at Ichang, are prohibitive, and send the opium export over the mountains which divide Szechuan from Eastern China. Fear of loss by shipwreck in the rapids may also have some effect in keeping opium away from the natural trade route. Be this as it may, the officials at this port, anxious to divert it to the channel of the Yang-tze, and to get a share of the taxation, now offer to pass a picul as 20 catties, thereby reducing the duty here to 6 taels a picul only, but I cannot learn that this has had any effect. It is an interesting fact, however, showing the freaks which fiscal authorities in the provinces sometimes indulge in. The opium is carried along difficult mountain-paths from Szechuan to Shashih on the backs of coolies. Each man carries 1,000 oz., receiving 7,200 cash from Fuchow to Shashih. At the latter port, some 80 miles below Ichang, it is sent in regular trade channels all over the east and south. The nature of the general carrying trade to and from Szechuan makes this laborious transportation a very easy matter. The crews of up-river junks are double or treble in size those of down-river ones, and, besides, no wages are paid on the down-river trip. There is, therefore, no lack of mountain porters. A large number of the strongest and most active of the trackers of junks bound to Szechuan have, as the most necessary part of their kit, a "ya pien pei lou," or back opium basket, a peculiarly shaped vessel which is strapped on the back in Alpine fashion when filled with opium. Having completed their voyage to Chungking, they walk to Fuchow, Fêngtu, or other mart, get a load of opium, and trudge back to Hupei with it over the mountains. At Hankow

Szechuan opium now figures to some extent in the export list of the Imperial Maritime Customs. In 1880, 927 piculs were exported to other Chinese Treaty ports, and last year no less than 3,891 piculs. It pays at Hankow an *ad valorem* export and coastwise duty of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the value being taken at about 300 taels a picul. As regards the Maritime Customs, therefore, Indian and Szechuan opium are about on an equal footing. It is worthy of note that Szechuan opium, after payment of dues in Szechuan, after further dues at one or other of the Hupei barriers, after an export duty of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*, and after the expenses of coolie transport and river freight, is still able to bear fresh taxation in the east, and be cheap enough to supply the poorer classes who cannot afford the high-priced Indian drug.

8. *Price; Adulteration.*—The cheapness of Szechuan opium is in some measure to be attributed to adulteration. Oil, glue, and other innocuous stuffs increase it in bulk; abominations of various kinds add to its strength, and as much as 30 per cent. of these foreign matters are mixed in it by Szechuan producers and dealers. When pure, it is not inferior to any other native growth except Kansuh, which, I may here state, is considered almost as good as Indian. Adulteration having been followed by heavy losses, an effort to be honest was made in 1881 with considerable success. The opium crop brought to market last year, though the produce of an unfavourable season, is the best Szechuan opium that has been seen for years, because the purest. Generally speaking, Szechuan opium is worth at Fuchow from 11 to 14 taels per 100 oz., according to the season, being dearer as it gets older. Until last year it was considerably cheaper than Yünnan opium, as the following price list shows:—

PRICE of 100 Chinese Ounces of Native Opium at Chunking in October.

				1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
				Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Yünnan	..	..	..	22	18 to 20	16	15
Szechuan	..	..	..	16	12 to 13	14	19
							but in December 15 taels.

The extremely high price of Szechuan opium in October and November last year were caused by extensive purchases made in the east in fear of an immediate and large increase in taxation. This speculation had a widespread effect on the whole trade of Szechuan, and as it was the most important commercial event in the west of China during the year I shall give some account of it when I come to treat of the effect of opium on inland exchange.

9. *Yünnan Opium.*—The gradual decline in the price of Yünnan opium is, in my opinion, the result of its increased production. In 1875 the Grosvenor Mission reported that fully one-third of the whole cultivated area of the province was devoted to opium in winter. Writing in 1879, Mr. Baber, in his able Report on opium, estimated that 12,500 piculs of Yünnan opium came into Szechuan yearly; that the 3,000,000 inhabitants smoke about 7,000 piculs yearly, and that 5,500 piculs are exported in other directions than by way of Szechuan, making a total yearly yield of 25,000 piculs. Recent travellers describe the province as

rapidly recovering from the desolation produced by the suppression of the Mahommedan rebellion, and opium as being grown in every field as fast as it is brought back into cultivation. The yield for 1881 is reported to me as at least 40,000 piculs, and I see no reason to doubt it. Another reason for the cheapness of Yünnan opium in 1881 is that Shensi and the North-West, to which in former years a considerable quantity of Yünnan opium was sent, now produce opium of singularly fine quality sufficient to supply nearly all local requirements. This fact is a fitting commentary on the statements made last year by Tso Tsung-tang, when Governor-General of the North-West, that he had uprooted the poppy throughout his jurisdiction.

10. *Prevalence of Opium-smoking in West.*—Before giving an estimate of the amount of opium produced in Szechuan, I must refer, in explanation of the large figures I shall be obliged to use, to the extraordinary prevalence of the habit of opium-smoking in Western Hupei, in Szechuan, and in Yünnan. It prevails to an extent undreamt of in other parts of China. The Roman Catholic missionaries, who are stationed all over Szechuan to the number of nearly 100, and who, living amongst the people, have opportunities of observation denied to travellers, estimate that one-tenth of the whole male adult population of the province smoke opium. Mr. Parker, after travelling all over the thickly-settled parts of the province, estimates the proportion of smokers thus:—

	Per cent.
Labourers and small farmers	10
Small shopkeepers	20
Hawkers, soldiers	30
Merchants, gentry	80
Officials and their staffs	90
Actors, prostitutes, thieves, vagabonds	95

I agree with Mr. Parker that the proportion of smokers varies in different classes according to their means and leisure, but I feel sure his estimate of the percentage amongst the labouring classes is much too low. One of the most numerous class of labourers in China is the coolie class, day labourers who live by picking up odd jobs, turning their hands to any kind of unskilled work that may be offered. Certainly more than half of them smoke. Of the labouring classes who are not "coolies," as a whole this much may be said—they only have money at stated intervals; and when out of a gang of forty or fifty workmen or sailors only four or five smoke opium, it does not mean that only 10 per cent. are smokers. In all probability, half of the whole gang squandered their wages the day they got the money, and have nothing left to buy opium or anything else until the job or voyage for which they have been engaged is finished.

For example, of my junk crew on my voyage to Chungking, only four smoked opium regularly, but seven others, who had spent all their wages before we started, smoked whenever I gave them a few cash. The total abstinence of a British sailor at sea for months on end proves nothing; it is what he will do when he has 10% in his pocket, and is in a street with fifteen public-houses, that decides his sobriety. So of workmen in the west of China, a large number smoke opium when they have money, and do the best they can when they have none. Whatever be the exact percentage of the opium-smokers in Szechuan in the whole population, it is many times larger than in the east.

An interesting Report, based on Returns by the Commissioners of Customs at the various Treaty ports, and published by order of the Inspector-General of Customs, tries to show that opium-smokers consti-

tute only two-thirds of 1 per cent. of the population. However true this may be of the seaboard provinces (I do not for a moment question the accuracy), it does not apply to the west of China. The impression one actually gets in a Szechuan city or village is that everybody smokes opium, and one is surprised to hear on good authority that 40 per cent. do not smoke. The percentage is here no question of fractions of 1 per cent., but of 30, 40, or even 60 per cent. of the whole male adult population, and thousands of women besides. In the city of Chungking, for instance, where there is a population of 130,000, there are 1,280 opium-shops. In winter, when the two rivers are crowded with junks, and the foreshores covered with booths, the population amounts to over 200,000, and Mr. Parker estimates the number of opium-shops then at 2,000. At no one of these is less than 2,000 copper cash worth of prepared opium sold a-day, or, at the smoker's price of 32 cash for 1 mace, 6 oz. of opium. This gives a daily consumption of 12,000 oz. of opium, or 2,740 piculs per annum. Ichang, again, has a population, including junks, of not more than 30,000, but it has 700 opium-shops at least. The minimum daily amount sold at each of these is 2,000 cash worth, or, at 48 cash for one mace, 4 oz. of opium, making a daily consumption for this small city of 2,800 oz., or 410 piculs per annum. In country hamlets and villages the state of things is just as extraordinary. Passing along the main street, every second house almost is an opium-shop, and wherever there are two or three houses grouped together one sees the ubiquitous opium signboard and lantern, and smells the fumes of the drug. In some rural districts they smear the lips of their idols with it, and burn at funerals paper *fac similes* of pipes and opium, so that their dead may enjoy in the next world the comfort and solace they loved in this. In all this vast region of opium-smokers Indian opium is unknown. Only a few dozen piculs of it reach Chungking yearly, where it is mixed with the Yunnan drug, and, under the name of "Canton opium," used for presents or for smoking on high days and at feasts by the rich.

11. *Effect of Opium-smoking.*—As to the effect of this habit on the people, amongst whom it is so widespread, there is but one opinion. Baron Richthofen, the most experienced traveller who ever visited Szechuan, after noticing the extraordinary prevalence of the habit, says: "In no other province except Hunan did I find the effects of the use of opium so little perceptible as in Szechuan." Mr. Colborne Baber, who knows more of the province and its people than any living Englishman, says: "Nowhere in China are the people so well off, or so hardy, and nowhere do they smoke so much opium." To these names of weight I add my own short experience. I found the people of Szechuan stout, able-bodied men, better housed, clad, and fed, and healthier looking than the Chinese of the Lower Yang-tsze. I did not see amongst them more emaciated faces and wasted forms than disease causes in all lands. People with slow wasting diseases such as consumption are, if they smoke opium, apt to be classed amongst the "ruined victims" of hasty observers, and amongst the cases of combined debility and opium-smoking I saw, some were, by their own account, *pseudo*-victims of this type. There were some, too, whose health was completely sapped by smoking combined with other forms of sensual excess. And no doubt there were others weakened by excessive smoking simply, for excess in all things has its penalty. But the general health and well-being of the Szechuan community is remarkable; to their capacity for work and endurance of hardship, as well as to the material comforts of life they surround themselves with, all travellers bear enthusiastic testimony.

12. *Consumption, how estimated.*—According to the official Report

of the Imperial Maritime Customs alluded to above, 3 mace of opium is the "average" smoker's daily consumption. Although this is probably correct as expressing the amount smoked by those who are moderate, that is, neither heavy nor light smokers, it must be borne in mind that while there are hundreds of heavy smokers, there are hundreds of thousands of light, and 3 mace is therefore quite an erroneous average to be used as the index either to the number of smokers a given quantity of opium will serve, or to the amount of opium a given number of smokers will consume. The disproportion between the numbers of heavy and of light opium-smokers is so great that such estimate must be based on an index figure only slightly above the light smoker's daily quantum. This, in Szechuan, is about 20 copper cash worth, or five-eighths of a mace. The average amount smoked by all grades of smokers in the province must be very much nearer 1 mace than 3. To make sure of my not over-estimating the quantity consumed, I take the average or index figure to be 1 mace, costing 32 cash, or $1\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $1\frac{1}{10}d.$, as against $3\frac{1}{4}d.$ paid in the east for a similar quantity of the Indian drug. It would be impossible to apply this index to the proved daily consumption of the cities of Ichang and Chungking in order to find out the number of smokers, because the master, owner, and deck hands of every junk leaving these ports buy there large amounts of opium for consumption during the voyage. But in applying it to the whole province, it may be depended on to give the minimum possible consumption. From the amount thus arrived at due deduction will have to be made for resmoked opium, for I must explain that three "t'ao" or "drawings" are often smoked from the same opium, and from unadulterated drug sometimes as many as five. The leavings of the rich smoker are mixed with the opium sold to the poor, the refuse of the poor is smoked by him again, and the unsmokable dregs are drunk in tea by labourers, sailors, and others who have not time to knock off work for a smoke. An ounce of crude opium is often worked up in this way to weigh $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of prepared, although, if unadulterated, it would only turn out seven-tenths of an ounce, or even less.

13. *Consumption, amount of.*—To come to figures of consumption. The population of the province in 1812 was given at 21,000,000. Supposing it to have been very much less than that in reality, it can hardly now, after seventy years of a prosperity less interrupted by rebellion and famine than other parts of China, be less than 26,000,000. I should be justified indeed, so far as any information I got locally goes, in putting it at 35,000,000, but I deem it the more prudent course to take a low estimate. Of these, 13,000,000 would be males, and, roughly speaking, 6,500,000 male adults. I take as the minimum number of opium-smokers 30 per cent. of the male adults, 1,950,000; women and youths, 250,000; in all, 2,200,000 smokers of 1 mace per day. The total amount of opium smoked in Szechuan is therefore not less than 50,000 piculs of the prepared drug. With a low estimate of the population, a very low percentage of male adult smokers, with a small average allowance for each smoker daily not beyond the means of the poorest, I feel sure I have arrived at the minimum consumption of the province. It may be very much more—it likely is; but it cannot be less. To produce this quantity of prepared opium, 71,000 piculs of crude opium at least would be required; but the Szechuan drug is, as I have said, so adulterated with rubbish and opium already smoked, that these 50,000 piculs of prepared opium are probably made from as little as 60,000 piculs of crude. With the exception of some 5,000 piculs of Yunnan opium, smoked for the most part in districts west of Chungking, and a few piculs of Indian and Kansuh opium, the whole of this is grown locally. Baron Richthofen, following a similar line of inquiry in 1870, obtains the same result. In his calculation, however,

there are two erroneous postulates; one, that an ounce of crude opium gives an ounce of prepared, and the other that smokers pay for prepared opium at the same rate as dealers buy crude. The effect of the first is to make his result too small, of the second too large, so the two sources of error probably neutralize each other.

14. *Export, amount of.*—The amount of opium exported from Szechuan is increasing yearly. Mr. Baber, writing in 1879, estimates it at 130,000 piculs. The *li-kin* officials at Foochow gave the export from that section of the province in 1878 to the east as 70,000 piculs, of which 40,000 piculs were declared and dues paid thereon. The export to Shensi across the Ta Pa Shan was about one-fourth of this, and in other directions and from other parts of the province 43,000 piculs were sent out. Of this total export, 7,000 piculs was Yünnan opium re-exported, and 123,000 piculs locally grown. What the figures are now I cannot say. I believe the eastern export to be much larger than when Mr. Baber wrote, so large indeed last year, as I shall presently show, that its financing proved to be beyond the capabilities of the currency of the country, and brought collapse and disaster on Szechuan trade generally. The export to Shensi and Shansi has fallen off to some extent. I have not, however, such definite and precise information as would warrant any great alteration of Mr. Baber's figures, which, as giving the export of five years ago, may be taken to be as accurate as the nature of the subject will admit. As he himself says, they are not based on bald answers to leading questions, but on careful deductions from observations and inquiries lasting for months, or on information voluntarily tendered by merchants and officials, and substantiated by collateral evidence. Even allowing for the falling-off in the export to the north and north-east, the total export from Szechuan can hardly be less now than it was in 1878. In all probability it is very much greater.

15. *Total Production.*—The production of opium in Szechuan in recent years may with confidence be regarded as at least 177,000 piculs per annum, of which 54,000 piculs is consumed locally and 123,000 piculs sent to other provinces of China. Reckoning 50 oz. as the average product of a Chinese *mow* of land, or 333 oz. an acre, an estimate which cannot be considered high, since 896 English ounces (675 oz. Chinese) were gathered from an acre of poppies in Scotland in 1830, this produce is the winter harvest of 850,000 acres, and, continuing the method of calculations of the minimum, it represents a money value in Szechuan of 34,000,000 taels. Taking the above figures for Szechuan, and allowing to Yünnan the small increase of 10,000 piculs since 1878, instead of 15,000 piculs as reported to me, the total production of Szechuan and South-west China is:—

	Piculs.
Szechuan consumption of local opium	54,000
Szechuan export, less Yünnan re-export	123,000
Yünnan production (consumption and export)	35,000
Kweichow production, reported to me as	10,000
South-west Hupei, Ichang Fu, and Shihnan Fu	2,000
Total	224,000

Or $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the whole Indian import into China.

I have taken the production of South-west Hupei at the very small figure of 2,000 piculs, because last year, owing to drought at seed time and rains in spring, the crop was a short one. The opium of the Ichang Prefecture, grown in the Patung district, has a high reputation, and is superior even to Yünnan growth.

16. *Effect of Opium on Exchange and Trade.*—As I have already

stated, the financing of this great export eastward, which in 1878 was of a value of 14,000,000 taels, and was last year much greater, involved the general trade of the province towards the close of 1881 in difficulties. The flow of bullion in this part of China is from west to east, and no silver comes to Szechuan from the east. Exports from Szechuan of local produce, where not negotiated against imports, are paid for by means of bills of exchange, payable at sight, drawn by Hankow and Shashih hong on their agents in Chungking or on the banks of that city, where the trade of the province financially centres. This latter is the case especially with opium, which has to be purchased at cities like Foochow and Fêngtu, where little or no import trade exists. Intending purchasers of opium in the east buy these bills and send them to their agents the payees in Chungking. There the bills are cashed and the silver sent to the opium markets. Exchanged for opium, it passes to the opium cultivators and dealers throughout a wide district, whose trade with Chungking is small and whose river or overland communications with Chungking are difficult. The silver eventually finds its way back to that centre, but it is a matter of time. The uncertainty and danger of this arrangement to a financial centre like Chungking, where there exists a highly organized system of exchange with all parts of China, is apparent. Until a year or two ago the currency available for trade purposes was ample for ordinary requirements, and even with a steady drain for eight or nine months of the year to the opium districts no great inconvenience was felt. The present Governor-General of the province, however, shortly after he came into office, instituted a new system of collecting the salt revenue, and when, in 1880, his reforms and new regulations came into full operation, their effect was to withdraw from circulation and keep locked up in the Provincial Treasury a sum exceeding 5,000,000 taels. For nearly the whole of this sum Chungking was drawn upon, but the extent to which the available currency had been contracted was not discovered until the opium of the 1881 crop came to market, and the usual drain to Foochow and other marts set in. In the meantime a memorial by his Excellency Tso Tsung-tang to the Emperor, recommending a large increase in the taxation on both foreign and native opium, was published in Shanghai, and at once attracted the attention of opium-dealers in the east. The memorialist was reputed to have, and at that time probably had, the highest influence with the Central Government; and in expectation that the proposed large increase in the *li-kin* on native opium was certain to be inflicted, whatever happened to the duties on the foreign drug, a rush was made to buy Szechuan opium for the anticipated rise. When I arrived at Chungking in November the speculation was at its height. Opium had risen from 13 to 19 taels per 100 oz.; the banks had been drawn upon in October and November for over 5,000,000 taels, and had advices of further drafts to be met in December of 1,200,000 taels, all for the purchase of the drug. A silver famine had set in in the commercial metropolis of Szechuan, with a plethora of it in the opium districts unavailable. Apart from the inconvenience to myself in that I found it impossible to negotiate bills for my own funds, the situation was a very interesting one. It evolved itself thus:—The first effect was to drive the weaker merchants and bankers to the wall, some half-dozen of whom closed their doors with heavy liabilities, including 600,000 taels drafts due. So far no great harm was done, as the dishonoured paper was promptly referred to the drawers, and most of the money recovered no doubt by the original purchasers of the bills. The second effect was the undue appreciation of silver, that is, the undue depreciation of everything for which silver is exchanged in Chungking, foreign goods and native produce alike, and, in short, the derangement of trade for a time. Great losses were incurred by all except the few holders

of silver, especially by dealers in piece-goods. As soon as the banks had time to communicate with their eastern agents, and to protect themselves by raising the exchange at Shashih and Hankow on Chungking, their special difficulties were over. But merchants suffered, and when I left in January they were looking forward to the future with apprehension. The liability of the large opium demand to fluctuations, which, in the absence of telegraph, it is beyond the powers of the Chungking banks to gauge the extent of or to control, and the difficulties attendant on an unduly restricted currency, will, they think, put trade in a constant position of unstable equilibrium in future, and make ordinary profit calculations and forecasts impossible. These fears appear to be justifiable. Although the course of exchange and the flow of the currency may be expected to readjust themselves to whatever new conditions the increase in the opium export and the working of the salt regulations impose on Szechuan trade, the difficulties of communication, and the lack of ready transport, not only between east and west but between different parts of Szechuan, will make the readjustment a slow process, and one at best imperfect. Until the facilities for the interchange of products are levelled up to the highly-developed system of exchange banking, the principal effect of the great opium export must remain what it is—to take money from where it is useful and lock it up for a time where it is useless for trade purposes, and the profits which the opium districts make will run a risk of being made at the expense of the general trade of the province. In other words, before Szechuan can experience an increase of wealth and of purchasing power fully commensurate with the value of the opium she now exports, Chungking will have to be connected by telegraph with the east, and steamers must ply, if not from Ichang to Chungking, at least along the great waters of Szechuan.

Summary.—The main facts regarding native opium in the west are, in sum, these:—

1. Szechuan produces yearly not less than 177,000 piculs of opium; South-west China, including Szechuan, not less than 224,000 piculs. The exact figures cannot be ascertained, but they are probably higher. The limit of profitable production is infinitely far off.
2. The cultivation in Szechuan and Yunnan is not interfered with, discouraged, or taxed by Government. It is free and open to all. It has for years been, and is now, affected only by natural causes, the law of demand and supply, calculations of profit and loss, and conditions of soil and weather.
3. No Indian opium is consumed in all this region, although opium-smoking, it may without exaggeration be said, is a universal practice. In addition to supplying its own wants, Szechuan exports enormous quantities to the east, where it is smoked by the poorer classes.
4. The payment of this export at present tends to derange the currency of the province and to hamper trade, a state of things which can only be transitional. Improved communications and transport would soon remedy this.
5. Opium in transit affords a valuable revenue to the Government; to the Szechuan provincial exchequer a net sum of not less than 1,500,000 taels; to the Hankow Maritime Customs revenue, a yearly increasing export duty; to the exchequers of the other provinces it passes through or is smoked in, dues varying from 10 to 25 taels.
6. "Nowhere in China are the people so well off, and nowhere do they smoke so much opium." Thus, writing of Szechuan, Baber, Richthofen, Blakiston, Gill, and all travellers; thus, experience generally.

Although these facts speak for themselves, I may be allowed to add one or two obvious inferences. Were Indian opium the fatal poison and

scourge in the east it is sometimes asserted to be, one ought to find in the west, where ten-fold more opium is smoked, a debased, debilitated, and impoverished population. On the contrary, it is notorious that the reverse is the case, and that the people, both in body and estate, are amongst the most prosperous in China. Unless it can be proved that Indian opium contains some noxious principle which does not exist in the Szechuan drug, the hypothesis of the fatal poison is open to the gravest doubt. So far as my own experience goes, I have seen on a Saturday night in the streets of a large town in England more vice-born misery than I did in four months in the greatest opium-smoking province of this Empire. The ordinary Chinese opium-smoker is no more a "victim" to opium than a navvy is a "victim" to his daily quart; and such part of the general flow of sympathy in England for misery in foreign lands as is given to him might well be retained at home for a worthier object. Again, if it be remembered that a great extent of the Province of Szechuan is under opium cultivation, that the industry is now a livelihood to countless families, that its product is deemed by millions to be essential to their daily happiness, the difficulty of putting down cultivation by force is apparent. The right of the people to grow and to smoke opium has been for years unquestioned by their officials; to compel them to surrender the right now would be to provoke a rebellion. Even if the Government were willing to incur this risk, and determined, *coûte que coûte*, to be rid of opium, which it would be at present nonsensical to affirm, success would require a vigorous Executive, free from venality and opium-smoking, having under its orders armies of constables equally free from these faults. But China has no such Executive, and no such armies. Of the local official class, their attendants, hangers-on, and constables, it may truly be said that if there is one quality more conspicuous than their venality it is their love of opium-smoking. Even were the prospects of a *bonâ fide* effort not a chimera, its success would be impossible.

What, under the circumstances, would be the practical effect of the rigorous prohibition of opium cultivation in India, and the attempted exclusion by China of foreign opium, it is easy to see. Its effect on opium-smoking in Yünnan, Kweichow, Szechuan, Kansuh, Shensi, and Western Hupei, where Indian and foreign opium are almost unknown, would be *nil*. Amongst the poor in the east, who now use the native drug, its effect would be equally *nil*. Many who now use Indian opium would take to native, and one effect would be to give a great stimulus to production in the west. But the well-to-do smokers in the east and seaboard provinces, amongst whom I include all the average smokers who spend 10*d.* a-day on Indian opium, would everywhere seek for high-classed smuggled opium. Smuggling would be organized all along the coast; Chinese desperadoes would find willing associates in running foreign opium into the country in European and American adventurers; the Maritime Customs Service would have to become an armed force; quiet seaports would be turned into hells of disorder, and international relations between China and foreign Powers be embittered to an intolerable degree. The opium which could not be grown in India would come in part from Turkey and Persia; new fields for its growth would be opened up in Mozambique and similar latitudes in Africa; and the profits of the trade, instead of passing, as they do now, to the support of our beneficent rule and civilization in India, would become the incentive to, and the reward of, lawlessness, disorder, and crime.

TRANSIT TRADE.

The following Table shows the value of the goods and produce carried under transit pass in 1881 as compared with the previous year:—

			1880.	1881.
			Taels.	Taels.
Inward transit .	..	..	989,188	831,484
Outward transit	..	..	689,995	406,324

There was a considerable increase in the number of passes issued; 1,681 in 1881, against 1,178 in 1880. No passes were taken out by Chinese merchants for inward cargo, although their right to do so is acknowledged by the local officials, and understood by the merchants themselves. Applications for inward passes are made in the name of a foreign Hankow firm, and outward passes are issued to Hankow firms at Hankow. In October last I had an opportunity of bringing to the notice of the Superintendent of Customs at Kweichow the excessive rigour with which the goods of British merchants under transit pass, especially tin-lined cases of woollens, were examined. He agreed to limit the opening and examination of such goods in future to one case in ten, provided the goods belonged to merchants who were not in the habit of attempting frauds at the barrier, and provided the marks and numbers of each case were undefaced and in agreement with the transit pass.

GENERAL.

I have little to add to my notes of last year regarding up-river navigation to Chungking. I have passed the rapids both at the height of summer flood, and at dead low water, but trips in a native boat by an unskilled and unscientific observer can add little to the elucidation of the problem of their passage by steamers. I am of opinion that they would, during the summer floods, be no obstacle to a steamer whatever, but during the rest of the year any attempt to steam from Ichang to Kweichow will be attended with risk until an accurate survey of the river at two or three different seasons is made. From Kweichow upwards there would be no difficulty. Both on the great river and its tributaries there are hundreds of miles of water-way navigable by light-draught steamers, and even in the event of the rapids being found too dangerous for steamer traffic, the question of the throwing open the Szechuan waters ought not to be lost sight of. The advantage of this to foreign trade, and especially to the province itself, would be very great.

No foreign merchants have as yet established themselves at Ichang, and except as steamer storage, and forwarding agents, there is no field for any. Foreign goods for the interior of China are now-a-days purchased at Shanghai, by the local Chinese merchants of the different inland cities. Shanghai, offering the double advantage of a large market to choose from, and a centre of gaiety and pleasure without a rival in the Empire, has absorbed the import markets on the lower Yang-tsze. Where Hankow even has failed, Ichang and Chungking are not likely to succeed.

The foreign community at Ichang consists of the staff of the Imperial Maritime Customs, three missionaries and their families, and myself. The summer of last year was hot and trying, and as we are all miserably lodged in Chinese houses, we were constantly ill. We can keep water out of our houses, but not dysentery and fever. The lonely life of a Consular officer in such a port as Ichang would be much more tolerable were he housed in a foreign-built house lifted a few feet from the level of the ground. I have been informed that what was good enough for my predecessor is good enough for me, but the contemplation of this fact, be

ICHANG.

it never so true and cogent, does not lift me above the influence of malaria.

I have to express my indebtedness to Mr. F. A. Morgan, Commissioner of Customs at this port, for the Tables appended to this Report.

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE,
Acting Consul.

Ichang, April 1, 1887.

(No. 1.)—DIRECT TRADE. Imports and Exports.

Nil.

(No. 2.)—INDIRECT TRADE. Coast or River Trade. Imports and Exports.

General Imports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	General Exports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	Total General Imports and Exports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	Imports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Exports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Total Imports and Exports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Remarks.
£ s. d. 284,682 15 0	£ s. d. 134,143 12 6	£ s. d. 418,826 17 6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Tael estimated at 5s. 6d.

Treasure.

Imported in British vessels	£ s. d.	Exported in British vessels	£ s. d.
Imported in foreign vessels	Nil	Exported in foreign vessels	Nil
	1,481 19 6		4,388 14 6
Total	1,481 19 6	Total	4,388 14 6
Total treasure imported and exported in British and foreign vessels	5,870 14 0		

WM. DONALD SPENCE, Acting Consul.

(Signed)

British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.

(No. 3).—SHIPPING RETURN of the Port of Ichang for the Year 1891.

BRITISH.

NIL.

FOREIGN.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.			TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
83	11,906	..	£ 384,682	83	11,906	..	166	23,812	..	£ 418,826

Total estimated at 54. 64.

British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1892.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE, Acting Consul.

ICHANG.

(No. 4.)—IMPORTS of Foreign Goods into Ichang during the Year 1881.

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.
			Taels.
Opium, Patna	Piculs	2 40	912
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey	Pieces	143,160	257,688
" white	"	4,710	9,420
" dyed	"	220	660
" figured and brocaded ..	"	1,120	3,896
T-cloths	"	26,914	38,248
Drills, English	"	30,485	60,129
" American	"	2,145	4,290
Jeans, English	"	1,080	2,160
Sheetings, English	"	1,830	3,840
" American	"	4,970	10,960
Chintzes	"	6,818	13,036
Taffuchelas	"	1,100	1,720
Cambrics	"	520	780
Damasks, dyed	"	1,010	4,040
Turkey-red cloth	"	1,400	3,120
Velvets	"	384	2,338
Velvetens	"	1,044	9,396
Handkerchiefs	Dozens	3,220	805
Yarn	Piculs	12 00	360
Woollen goods—			
Blankets	Pairs	25	94
Camlets, English	Pieces	5,940	77,220
Lastings	"	7,630	68,670
Long ells	"	5,800	41,500
Lustres and figured Orleans ..	"	5,037	19,064
Spanish stripes	"	678	10,170
Broad cloth	"	133	3,722
Russian cloth	"	1,800	54,000
Metals—			
Iron wire	Piculs	108 00	728
Quicksilver	"	287 81	14,457
Sundries—			
Aniseed, star	"	40 70	618
Betel-nuts	"	48 50	250
Bicho-de-mar	"	367 47	21,148
Birds' nests, 2nd quality ..	"	0 88	1,823
" 3rd	"	1 75	1,372
Brass buttons	Gross	6,549	8,624
" foil	Piculs	56 39	1,223
" ware	"	15 09	352
Cardamoms, superior	"	25 77	1,432
" inferior	"	136 80	3,423
Cassia lignea	"	309 34	2,477
" buds	"	19 65	171
" twigs	"	18 81	280
Clocks and watches	Pieces	425	663
Cloves	Piculs	35 87	1,116
" mother of	"	5 32	113
Cuttle-fish	"	625 73	9,382
Camphor	"	29 10	2,900
Dyes and colours	Bottles	93,074	33,172
Fans	Pieces	20,300	280
Fish-maws	Piculs	144 84	5,148
Ginseng	"	51 07	11,781
Glass ware	"	70 87	1,349
Gold thread, imitation	"	3 43	551
Horns, rhinoceros'	"	0 40	320
Isinglass	"	429 51	11,590
Lamps, kerosine	Pieces	8,916	1,025
" opium	"	11,562	1,550

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.
			Taels.
Sundries, continued—			
Lungngans, dried	Piculs	49 50	200
" pulp	"	15 40	296
Mats	Pieces	24,266	728
Medicines	Piculs	28 20	243
Nutmegs	"	4 10	286
Ornaments	Pieces	27,600	117
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs	57 21	1,058
Peel, orange	"	237 53	2,623
Pepper, black	"	403 73	2,101
Prawns, dried	"	254 43	4,483
Putchuck	"	35 01	524
Rattans, split	"	88 09	964
Rouge	"	10 68	334
Sandal-wood	"	25 00	200
Sapan-wood	"	152 40	737
Seaweed	"	2,863 33	11,779
Silk and cotton mixture	"	12 74	1,684
" piece-goods	"	7 35	4,058
Sharks' fins, white	"	64 89	5,193
Silk ribbon	"	0 56	260
Tin-foil	"	39 46	1,114
Tin-plate ware	"	49 77	507
Umbrellas	Pieces	1,104	1,656
Wood ware	Piculs	18 12	253
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	.. ..	2,528
Total .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	885,482

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE,
Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.

(No. 5.)—IMPORTS of Native Produce into Ichang during the Year 1881.

Description of Produce.		Quantity.		Value.
				Taels.
Bicho-de-mar, black	Piculs	19	00	1,140
Brass buttons	"	22	50	1,677
" foil	"	6	65	206
" ware	"	6	55	222
Cotton, raw	"	8,439	87	113,573
Cuttle-fish	"	404	94	5,460
China-root	"	162	03	1,620
Fans, paper	Pieces	25,920		2,070
" palm-leaf, trimmed	"	1,634		48
" fancy and silk	"	1,793		303
Glass ware	Piculs	27	69	548
Gold thread, imitation	"	10	31	1,795
Joss-sticks	"	56	75	370
Jadestone ware	Pieces	374		538
Lamps, opium	"	9,151		1,551
Lungngans, dried	Piculs	54	00	810
" pulp	"	7	64	75
Medicines	"	177	97	1,514
Mirrors and glasses	Pieces	8,005		577
Ornaments	"	194,845		660
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs	42	76	487
" 2nd	"	12	60	75
[573]				Σ

Description of Produce.	Quantity.	Value.
		Taels.
Pearls, false	Piculs 9 22	802
Sea-blubber	" 415 55	1,478
Silk piece-goods	" 1 50	800
" ribbons	" 9 88	4,940
Spectacles	Pairs 23,169	1,012
Silk and cotton mixtures	Piculs 0 52	150
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	5,227
Total .. ..	.. ..	149,728

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE.

Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.

(No. 6.)—NATIVE Produce exported from Ichang during the Year 1881.

Description of Produce.	Quantity.	Value.
		Taels.
Silk—		
Yellow Szechuan	Piculs 800 03	169,028
White	" 27 91	6,075
Refuse	" 615 60	24,269
Cocoons	" 69 06	2,197
Piece-goods	" 0 23	23
Sundries—		
China-root	" 73 16	522
Coal	" 45,461 00	11,819
Copper ore	" 64 70	2,050
Fungus	" 394 79	10,471
Hemp	" 1,827 95	12,494
Leather	" 480 73	5,631
Medicines	" 12,517 09	131,912
Musk	" 1 87½	11,060
Nutgalls	" 264 19	1,766
Rhubarb	" 812 99	16,642
Safflower	" 457 61	25,658
Tallow, vegetable	" 48 40	240
Tigers' bones	" 75 00	2,090
Tea, black	" 50 15	1,245
Wax, white	" 965 44	51,933
" yellow	" 3 80	80
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	590
Total .. ..	.. ..	487,795

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE,

Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.

KIUKIANG.

Report on the Trade of Kiukiang for the Year 1881.

APPENDED to this Report are the following Returns, which have been furnished to me through the courtesy of the Commissioner of Customs :—

1. Return of British and Foreign Shipping.
2. Return of Foreign Imports.
3. Return of Native Imports.
4. Return of Exports of Native Produce.
5. Comparative Table of Imports for the past five years.
6. Comparative Table of Exports for the past five years.

The trade of this port during 1881 shows a slight falling-off as compared with the previous year, the totals being 12,130,000 taels, against 12,741,000 taels in 1880, being a decrease of 610,000 taels. An examination of the accompanying Tables shows this falling-off to be spread over the trade generally. Opium shows a decrease of 120,000 taels, cottons of 50,000 taels, and native imports of 230,000 taels. Tea shows an apparent decrease of 210,000 taels, but in reality the export of this article exceeded that of 1880 by some 13,000 piculs. The quality, however, was much below that of the previous year, and the prices paid to the Chinese dealers were proportionately less. The values which the Customs enter in their Returns are those furnished by the exporters, and according to these the average cost a-picul (of 133½ lbs.) was last year 26·5 taels, against 28·7 taels in the previous year. The average value of the Haikwan tael here last year was about 5s. 8d., but as this value fluctuates so much it is better for purposes of comparison to quote only in silver currency, which I shall do throughout.

Imports call for little special notice. Taking the three principal articles of British origin, cottons, woollens, and metals, the figures, as compared with the two previous years, are as follows :—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Cottons	..	..	Pieces	307,000	408,000	385,000
Cotton yarn	.	..	Piculs	1,983	2,369	3,234
Woollens	..	..	Pieces	36,095	32,912	34,906
Metals	..	..	Piculs	23,038	21,942	26,090

The slight fluctuations here indicated are due to local and temporary causes which it is needless to point out. The importation of cotton yarn, though small, has been steadily growing year by year, and will doubtless increase. It is used for warp in the native looms. The fibre of foreign cotton is longer than native, and this, coupled with superior skill in manipulation, produces stronger yarn than any that can be locally manufactured.

There is a small increase in metals, but this item shows no great elasticity. It is made up principally of lead and tin for the linings of tea boxes, with a little nail-rod iron for the fine kinds of native work.

The import of produce of native origin shows a considerable decrease as compared with last year, but this is accounted for by the one item of raw

cotton, which last year was brought here to an unprecedented extent consequent on the failure of the crop in the interior of the province, and which this year has fallen to more nearly its normal proportions. Otherwise there is a slight increase, but this category has remained surprisingly constant over a number of years, thereby indicating that there has been very little increase in the wealth of the mass of the population. Such items as sugar, seaweed, sandal-wood, cuttle-fish, &c., which are luxuries to the ordinary agriculturist, and which he would buy willingly if he could afford them, exhibit year after year nearly the same figures. Raw cotton is different, that is a necessity for making wadded clothes, and if the province does not grow it, it must be imported.

TRANSIT TRADE.

It is satisfactory to note that the quantity of foreign goods sent into the interior under Treaty transit pass is greater this year than in any previous year. This business, like the rest of the import trade, is entirely in the hands of Chinese merchants, who are now permitted to avail themselves of this privilege when the merchandize is undoubtedly of foreign origin. The figures for the past five years are as follows:—

1877	..	..	..	..	..	828,495
1878	..	..	..	..	..	854,539
1879	..	..	..	..	..	849,447
1880	..	..	..	..	..	879,191
1881	..	..	..	..	..	934,443

Had this branch of trade not been so strenuously opposed by the officials of this province in former years, as has been shown in previous Reports from this Consulate, the import of foreign goods might have been considerably larger at the present moment. For a long time transit passes were contemptuously ignored at the *li-kin* barriers, and even when those in charge were forced to recognize them, they often took advantage of slight discrepancies of weight or in marks and numbers to detain and seize the whole consignment. Even yet it is curious to notice that articles in bulk, like sugar and seaweed, which are apt to gain or lose in weight through climatic changes, are scarcely ever sent through the Kiangsi barriers, though forwarded in considerable quantities to the neighbouring Province of Anhui; the reason being that dealers are afraid to run the risk of confiscation through accident or other causes over which they have no control, and prefer the more expensive but safer course of paying the transit duties as they go.

OPIMUM.

As above stated, opium shows a decrease of over 200 chests as compared with last year. The demand has been remarkably constant for a great number of years, and shows no tendency to increase, the average being about 2,000 chests. The amount of native-grown opium brought here for sale seems increasing. I learn from one of the principal dealers that about 30 chests of native are now sold for every 70 of foreign. It comes from Szechuan by way of Hankow. The selling price is about half that of Indian opium. A sudden demand for Persian opium set in four years ago, but it has not been kept up. The figures have declined from 201 in 1879 to 175 in 1880, and 96 last year. This province so far continues clear of poppy cultivation, with the exception of one district in the extreme south, and even there it is not, so far as I can learn, of any great extent.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Long-continued wet weather during the tea-picking period spoiled much of the leaf, and the quality was found to be considerably under the average of former years. The total export shows an increase, however, being, in fact, the largest on record from this port. As in former years, only a small proportion was settled for on the spot, the great bulk being sent for sale on the Hankow or Shanghai markets. The transactions for the year have been, on the whole, fairly satisfactory to the foreign merchant.

Shipping, as before, remains, for the most part, in the hands of three Companies, two British and one Chinese, the total of British tonnage being nearly the same as last year. The Chinese line get, it must be admitted, the lion's share of the freights from this port, at least. Last year, with 36 per cent. of tonnage, they carried 48 per cent. of the cargoes. This year they are not quite so fortunate: with 38 per cent. of tonnage, they got 46 per cent. of freights. This, however, as it does not include the passenger traffic, does not represent the respective earnings. Both the British lines are largely patronized by the thousands of natives that travel up and down the Yang-tsze. This large and important branch of traffic is still in its infancy, and is capable of almost unlimited development.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Population and Industries.—When this port was first opened after the Tien-tsin Treaty, great expectations were formed of its future career. It was seen to be geographically situated as a distributing centre for a large area, and it was known to be the natural outlet for a great deal of the finest teas that China produces. A number of British merchants established themselves here at great expense, and for a few years good profits were made. But little by little they began to drop off, trade passed into the hands of Chinese dealers, where it is now, as far as imports are concerned, entirely concentrated. This change, which was not peculiar to Kiukiang, and which was inevitable sooner or later, was perhaps not so much to be regretted, inasmuch as it was brought about by the fact that native merchants could afford to do business on more favourable terms for the consumer. But the surprising thing is that, in spite of the lowering of prices which the competition between the foreigner and native thus produced, the demand should have continued so small. In order to illustrate this, I give in a tabular form the imports since 1866, distinguishing opium and cotton goods, and classing in separate columns the other foreign imports and native imports. I give both the quantity and value of cotton goods, because the price has fallen so much that values alone would not give a fair idea. In 1866 the average price a-piece was about 3 taels; in 1880 it was less than 2 taels.

TABLE I.—Imports since 1866.
Distinguishing Opium and Cotton Goods.

Year.	Opium.		Cotton.		Other foreign Imports.	Native Imports.	Total Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.			
	Piculs.	Taels.	Pieces.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
1866	2,416	1,444,000	114,000	348,000	1,138,000	1,123,000	4,063,000
1867	2,202	1,276,000	195,000	470,000	865,000	866,000	3,502,000
1868	1,923	1,012,000	376,000	842,000	1,015,000	591,000	3,465,000
1869	1,905	1,018,000	275,000	629,000	987,000	501,000	3,135,000
1870	2,110	1,088,000	300,000	635,000	1,121,000	452,000	3,296,000
1871	2,063	1,043,000	349,000	696,000	881,000	363,000	2,930,000
1872	1,934	914,000	362,000	724,000	1,056,000	465,000	3,187,000
1873	2,394	1,174,000	391,000	731,000	1,006,000	612,000	3,523,000
1874	2,905	1,280,000	431,000	876,000	1,207,000	589,000	3,663,000
1875	2,246	1,033,000	393,000	677,000	1,048,000	781,000	3,539,000
1876	2,043	950,000	442,000	791,000	963,000	692,000	3,416,000
1877	1,852	875,000	340,000	592,000	1,038,000	498,000	3,093,000
1878	1,635	965,000	319,000	572,000	976,000	649,000	3,167,000
1879	1,162	1,171,000	309,000	634,000	970,000	801,000	3,476,000
1880	2,289	1,268,000	406,000	773,000	913,000	962,000	3,916,000
1881	2,073	1,149,000	383,000	725,000	955,000	739,000	3,568,000

The first impression in casting one's eye over this Table is that the trade of this place is rather falling off if anything, but on examining the column showing the quantities of Manchester goods, it will be seen that, in the course of the ten years, they have risen from 114,000 to the respectable figure of about 400,000 pieces. And it is further to be remarked that the numbers gradually rise till 1876, when they reach a total of 452,000, after which they suddenly decrease, and then rise again. Now, 1877 was the year in which the neighbouring port of Wuhu was opened, and it is only reasonable to suppose that certain districts which formerly drew their supplies from Kiukiang thenceforward went to the nearer port. The inference, therefore, is that a steady rise has been going on which, for a time, got a slight check by the opening of Wuhu, but has now nearly recovered lost ground. Of course British trade is largely a gainer, as the two ports together take very much more than the older at its best did alone.

Still, in view of the very large area the supplies for which would naturally come through Kiukiang, the value of the trade is very small, nor is there any prospect of a considerable increase till the agricultural condition of the province has greatly improved. At present the mass of the people are poor in the extreme. This province was one that suffered very severely during the Taiping rebellion, and though twenty years have now elapsed since that frightful scourge passed over the land, the traces of it are still apparent everywhere. One enters a city, and the eye wanders over a huge waste of weeds and thistles. Perhaps not more than a tenth or a twentieth of the space inside the wall is built over, and even that by houses of the poorest description. A few are of brick, but the greater part are of wood or mere reeds and plaster. They are huddled together, as if for warmth or mutual support, close by the principal gate, and round about there hangs a fringe of the most wretched huts, occupied by squatters and beggars. Instead of the busy bustling crowd common to be met with in well-to-do Chinese towns, the traveller sees only a few listless straggling individuals, dirty, ragged, and idle.

Following the line of the street, the shops contain only the commonest necessities of life. For a few tens of dollars the most of them could be emptied of their whole contents. Once through the houses, the visitor wanders over acres and acres of broken bricks and stones, with here and there the pillars of an ornamental gateway still standing to mark where a

Confucius temple or other public building had been, or he stumbles over carved stone-work, now grass-grown and half-buried, to tell of the wealth of former inhabitants. Nothing has been disturbed since the sack and pillage of the rebels left a scene of blank desolation behind. The staring white walls and tall posts of the newly-built Yaméns are the only conspicuous objects amidst the general ruin.

This is no exaggerated picture of several cities in the north of this province. Even Kiukiang itself, with all the advantages of foreign trade, is not rebuilt over more than a fourth of its former area. In the country the effects, if not so apparent, are none the less real. There is no capital, no energy, no enterprise anywhere. Three-fourths of the soil in this immediate neighbourhood is waste. Looking southwards, the eye travels over miles of fine undulating land, all capable of bearing rich crops, but which now only grows a rough tall grass, useful for nothing but fuel, in the cutting and carrying in of which some of the poorer classes earn a scanty livelihood. For the most part the waste land is unowned, so wherever young trees spring up they are ruthlessly cut down with the rest of the herbage by the first comer. Even where the land is owned the needs of the proprietor are so urgent that promising young plantations are sacrificed for firewood as soon as they are worth cutting, leaving the whole country, except the inaccessible hills and a few favourite spots, denuded of trees.

Waste land, by the laws of the country, can become the absolute property of the first person who chooses to bring it under cultivation. Seeing so much waste land lying untilled year after year, one would be inclined to think that the fault lay in want of population, but, on the other hand, we are confronted by the fact that labour is abundant and exceedingly cheap, the ordinary wages of an agricultural labourer being no more than 4*d.* or 5*d.* a-day, without his food, and many are unoccupied even at that.

It cannot be said, either, that the Government land taxes are in any way prohibitive. For the class of ground of which I am speaking they would not amount to more than from 2*s.* to 4*s.* an acre, and even that would not be levied for the first ten years. There are no local rates or municipal taxes of any kind whatever. The difficulty lies mainly in the want of capital. To break up land of this kind requires some expenditure of labour and money before any returns can come in. But the great mass of the people live absolutely from hand to mouth. A hundred cash to them to-day is worth more than a thousand next year, and so they prefer, because they have no choice, the miserable pittance that they earn by cutting and selling the grass and underwood to the prospective large earnings to be got by preparing the ground for future crops. But even if they could afford to wait, they have no implements such as would be necessary for breaking up dry upland soil. An ordinary farmer's stock-in-trade consists of not more than a bullock or buffalo, a wooden plough, a harrow, and a few hoes and mattocks, costing, perhaps, some 3*l.* or 4*l.* altogether, all of the rudest description. With this he and his family farm from 1 to 5 acres of land or less. Out of this they make a livelihood, but nothing more. Silver money is hardly ever seen among them. What little surplus profits there are go in exchange for luxuries of a very moderate kind—a little pork, a little seaweed or salt fish as a relish to the rice, is about the height of their ambition. Many grow their own cotton, and the women of their family spin it and weave it into cloth. Clothes are worn till they are in very rags and tatters, but this home-made cloth stands wear exceedingly well; a suit, with patching and mending, will last a man for three or four years. The ordinary labourer always prefers home-spun cloth to foreign, even when obliged to buy—that is, when the women of his own family cannot supply it—on account of the wear he can get out of it. With the

same usage the latter would not last more than one or two years, even if of a superior quality, so that, though the cost is less to begin with, it is dearer in the long run.

The land under cultivation in this province is, generally speaking, confined to those portions where there is a natural supply of water for rice irrigation, the alluvial lands along rivers and canals, the sloping ground around the base of hills and small ravines, and moist places anywhere. Here it must be admitted Chinese agriculture is seen to perfection. A series of irregular terraces divides the ground into innumerable small patches, and guides the flow of water from the higher to the lower, which thus passes in turn through each tiny plot, often less than a tenth of an acre in size, a very primitive arrangement of dams and sluices enabling them to turn the water off or on at pleasure. Land of this kind will always grow two crops a-year, a wet one and a dry one, the wet crop being rice, and the dry one wheat or beans, cabbages, rape, &c. The yield of course varies greatly with the quality and situation, but the best lands are said to produce as much as from 40 to 50 bushels an acre of rice (unhulled) alone, without counting the other crops. If anything like a fair price could be obtained, there is no doubt that the owners ought to be wealthy, but it is needless to say that this is not the case. The selling price of clear rice at the ports generally averages only about 5*s.* 6*d.* a hundredweight, and in the interior it is probably not more than half that. In years of plenty it becomes a mere drug in the market.

For this there are many reasons, but two may be mentioned in particular: first, and chiefly, defective means of transport, want of roads, canals, &c.; and secondly, the prohibition by the Government of the export of rice to foreign countries. The latter may be a politic measure, the object of course being to secure a supply of food for the people and so prevent bread riots, but in a country where nine-tenths of the people are producers rather than consumers, its advantage is at least open to doubt. It certainly tends to perpetuate this state of affairs, that with the most fertile land in the world, the people live on from hand to mouth year by year, never accumulating capital, never laying by anything for a rainy day, unable to pay for any imported luxuries, the population always increasing up to the food limit till by-and-bye there comes a year or two of scarcity, and they die by thousands.

Such being the economic condition of the bulk of the people—I am speaking always of this immediate district, though my remarks are true of the greater part of China—it is not to be wondered at that foreign trade increases so slowly. And it is easier to point out the disease than to suggest a remedy. The primary difficulty is with the people themselves. Intelligent and enterprising as many of the Chinamen are, especially the Southern or Cantonese, the average agriculturist is stolid, stupid, and unimaginative to a degree. Frugal, honest, and law-abiding, he has no wish or thought beyond his own narrow circle, content if he can only get his daily bowl of rice and salt vegetables. He has a well-founded fear of officials and Yamên underlings, and only wishes to be left alone. All projects from that quarter are viewed with suspicion, as meaning only a squeeze under a new name. There is no local machinery of any kind for raising rates for public purposes, for making roads, bridges, or ferries, or for draining, lighting, or paving towns and villages. Joint stock enterprise of any kind is utterly unknown. With such people, improvement, if it ever comes, must begin from without. Left to themselves, they would go on from generation to generation without change to the end of time.

One of the first desiderata undoubtedly is increased facilities for the exchange of commodities, including the making of roads where water communication does not already exist; removal of taxes on transit, and removal

of all prohibition on the free export of whatever can find a foreign market. But what will most develop trade, whether foreign or native, is the creation of native industries, mining and manufacturing. By the upspringing of a new class of consumers as opposed to growers, a better price would be at once obtained for produce, and the cultivators of the soil would in turn be able to afford to buy more imported articles. Even if the new manufactories were such as to enter directly into competition with our own, we should in the end be gainers by the enormously increased demand that would inevitably be set up. If India, with a much smaller population, took, as the statistics for 1879 show, British manufactures to the extent of 22,714,000*l.*, against 8,268,000*l.* for China (including Hong Kong), it would be seen what enormous room there is for expansion of our trade with the latter, with its far superior soil, its greater mineral wealth, and its unique stores of tea and silk. It may safely be asserted that our exports, whether cotton, woollen, or metals, have not yet penetrated below the average middle class. The wearers of our cottons are the officials, merchants, and leisured classes generally, who can afford to take appearance into account in selecting their costume. If the day should ever come when our cotton fabrics shall be commonly worn by the Chinese labourer, the Trade Returns will show fifties and hundreds where they now show tens.

LOCAL.

There is little to notice under this heading. It has been mentioned in former Reports that by an arrangement between the Chinese and Consular authorities it was agreed that a sum of 30,000 taels should be raised by a wharfage due on all tea and opium passing through the custom-house to defray the cost of extending and repairing the bunds and jetties of the port. Unfortunately a considerable portion of the newly-erected river-wall gave way, and the sum originally allotted proved insufficient to complete the scheme. After some delay, it has now been arranged to continue the levy until an additional sum of 20,000 taels has been collected. The fact is worth noting, inasmuch as this port had, I believe, the honour to be the first where Chinese authorities were induced to consent to the imposition of a common rate for a common benefit. In most ports, whatever municipal improvements have been effected have been paid for by foreigners alone, with, at the most, some voluntary assistance from the Chinese, but here the matter was put on a legal and equitable footing from the first, neither side being indebted to the other.

Relations with the Chinese authorities continue to be of the most friendly character. The various missionaries, English and American, who are stationed in this neighbourhood continue their work unmolested. I have only heard of one anti-foreign placard during the year, and that was directed against the Roman Catholic missionaries at Pao-chao-foo, in the interior. From whatever reason, the Roman Catholic missionaries seem to be more objects of suspicion and dislike than those of the Protestant Societies. The numerous orphanages which they have established, secluded as they are from the general public, seem to give rise to the notion that all is not as it ought to be.

DUTIES.

The Chinese Government collected the sum of 794,205 taels at this port during the year, being the largest sum ever received. The increased export of tea explains that.

(Signed)

G. JAMIESON, *Consul.*

(No. 1).—RETURN of British and Foreign Shipping at the Port of Kiukiang during the Year 1881.

ENTERED.

Nationality of Vessels.	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.		Value of Cargoes.
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	
British ..	297	262,380	223	183,307	520	445,687	H. Telsa. £
Chinese ..	177	179,521	102	96,897	279	276,418	1,983,302 — 570,199
American ..	14	1,980	1	189	15	2,169	1,557,295 447,722
German ..	2	300	..	..	2	300	23,563 6,774
Danish ..	1	131	..	..	1	131	4,263 1,226
Spanish ..	4	622	..	139	5	761	1,800 518
							12,145 3,492

CLEARED.

Nationality of Vessels.	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.		Value of Cargoes.
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	
British ..	290	261,552	230	184,135	520	445,687	4,491,605 — 1,291,337
Chinese ..	180	180,905	100	95,536	280	276,441	4,084,328 1,174,244
American ..	1	189	14	1,980	15	2,169	.. ..
German ..	..	..	2	300	2	300	.. ..
Danish ..	..	..	1	131	1	131	.. ..
Spanish ..	..	..	5	761	5	761	.. ..
Total entered and cleared .	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,158,301 — 3,495,612*

* Including re-exports.

British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(Signed)

G. JAMIESON, Consul.

(No. 2.)—RETURN of Foreign Imports.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			H. Taels.
Opium—			
Malwa	Piculs ..	1,969 30	1,101,054
Patna .. .. .	.. ..	8 40	3,420
Persian .. .. .	.. ..	95 72	44,508
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	207,008	348,403
.. white, plain .. ..	.. ..	18,570	37,409
.. brocaded, dyed .. ..	.. ..	4,951	14,606
T-cloths .. .. .	.. ..	97,225	142,487
Drills, English .. ..	.. ..	11,800	29,681
.. American .. .. .	.. ..	830	2,010
Sheetings, English .. ..	.. ..	60	126
.. American.. .. .	.. ..	7,762	18,888
Jeans and twills .. ..	.. ..	1,068	2,484
Chintzes .. .. .	.. ..	5,056	7,508
Turkey-red cloths .. ..	.. ..	1,203	2,948
Velvets and velveteens .. ..	.. ..	3,161	20,220
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	23,408	14,707
Cotton goods, unclassified	Pieces ..	500	503
Cotton yarn	Piculs ..	3,245 00	83,075
Woollen goods—			
Blankets	Pairs ..	36	312
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	10,860	141,108
.. Dutch .. .. .	.. ..	110	1,680
Cloth, broad, medium, and habit .. ..	.. ..	1,459	38,946
Spanish stripes .. ..	.. ..	5,640	63,855
Russian cloth .. .. .	.. ..	20	470
Lastings .. .. .	.. ..	4,269	44,215
Long ells .. .. .	.. ..	9,355	65,767
Lustres and Orleans.. ..	.. ..	3,213	10,260
Metals—			
Iron : nail, rod, and bar	Piculs ..	2,799 48	6,282
.. wire .. .. .	.. ..	1,453 14	10,476
Lead, in pigs .. .. .	.. ..	16,606 18	80,446
.. tea .. .. .	.. ..	420 31	3,150
Tin, in slabs .. .. .	.. ..	4,709 93	99,696
.. in plates .. .. .	.. ..	301 83	2,167
Sundries—			
Bicho-de-mar, black and white .. ..	.. ..	450 80	14,303
Birds' nests .. .. .	.. ..	5 79	2,852
Cuttle-fish.. .. .	.. ..	888 43	9,204
Dye	Bottles ..	24,017	5,799
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	Pieces ..	122,050	1,193
.. .. untrimmed .. ..	.. ..	244,880	1,481
Ginseng, American, clarified	Piculs ..	29 80	2,488
Matches	Gross ..	20,640	7,174
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	786 32	24,911
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	27,800	3,404
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs ..	177 73	2,168
Pepper, black and white .. ..	.. ..	5,656 97	40,014
Prawns and shrimps, dried .. ..	.. ..	456 59	5,638
Sandal-wood .. .. .	.. ..	5,423 42	24,702
Sapan-wood .. .. .	.. ..	1,147 18	4,676
Seaweed, cut and long .. ..	.. ..	54,262 78	135,092
Sharks' fins, white .. ..	.. ..	31 25	2,845
Sugar, brown .. .. .	.. ..	14,317 82	59,341
.. white .. .. .	.. ..	1,920 33	10,713
Umbrellas, cotton .. ..	.. ..	225	1,814

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
Vermilion	Piculs ..	31 13	H. Taels. 2,085
Window glass .. ..	.. ..	1,080 00	3,336
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	21,298
Total .. .. .	.. ..	..	2,829,398

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(No. 3.)—TRADE in Native Produce.

IMPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
Brass buttons	Piculs ..	16 62	H. Taels. 1,087
Birds' nests	5 40	2,437
Cotton, raw	19,615 28	134,620
Dates, black	686 51	3,581
.. red	2,429 10	7,101
Cuttle-fish	21,943 19	123,975
Fish, dried and salt	949 02	5,645
Fungus	201 83	3,037
Lead, white	121 82	1,169
.. yellow	543 31	4,923
Lungngans, dried	1,653 06	11,834
Lichees, dried	534 08	3,910
Medicines	740 35	4,835
Nankeen	1,236 60	52,918
Samshoo	467 46	1,425
Silk piece-goods	75 15	30,989
.. pongees	16 22	3,792
.. ribbons	12 88	4,142
Sugar, brown	23,072 38	90,070
.. white	40,174 07	201,163
.. candy	3,069 69	21,625
Sea blubber	613 24	2,200
Vermilion	15 83	1,077
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	21,718
Total	739,273

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(No. 1.)—TRADE in Native Produce.

EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Total Exports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
Tea, black	Piculs ..	195,803 78	H. taels. 5,307,382
„ green	„ ..	59,680 81	1,809,810
„ brick	„ ..	8,025 86	50,079
„ leaf	„ ..	751 82	18,800
„ dust	„ ..	9,822 39	99,740
Sundries—			
Bamboo shoots, dried	„ ..	216 35	2,885
China-root	„ ..	6,220 54	33,659
China-ware, coarse	„ ..	6,649 34	34,852
„ fine	„ ..	5,943 74	45,224
Grass cloth, coarse	„ ..	6,188 29	172,535
„ fine	„ ..	382 82	15,622
Hemp	„ ..	27,649 57	210,382
Indigo, liquid	„ ..	4,158 03	19,279
Lotus-nuts	„ ..	254 67	2,681
Mats, bamboo	Pieces ..	28,869	3,773
Medicines	Piculs ..	390 26	1,008
Paper, 1st quality ..	„ ..	24,993 43	216,308
„ 2nd quality	„ ..	86,427 76	351,157
Tallow, vegetable ..	„ ..	7,664 33	50,109
Tobacco, leaf	„ ..	23,753 71	100,810
„ prepared	„ ..	338 72	7,256
„ stalk	„ ..	2,482 76	4,780
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	5,152
Total .. .. .	.. ..	..	8,563,253

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, *Consul*.
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(No. 5.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Import Trade for the Years 1875 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Opium—								
Malwa	Piculs ...	2,232	2,087	1,845	1,475	1,945	2,104	1,969
Patna	" ...	8	5	5	8	6	11	8
Persian	" ...	6	1	1	170	901	175	96
Cotton piece-goods—								
Shirtings, grey ...	Pieces ...	180,239	208,314	163,164	158,440	174,690	218,766	207,008
" white	" ...	9,999	10,572	10,333	11,759	12,609	15,093	18,570
T-cloths	" ...	137,914	162,152	97,249	102,723	90,362	116,185	97,935
Drills, all kinds ...	" ...	25,139	39,575	29,804	14,880	12,997	15,428	12,630
Brocades, dyed and white	" ...	3,448	3,448	3,002	2,950	5,328	3,720	4,961
Chintzes	" ...	6,663	4,201	4,243	3,648	3,895	4,580	5,056
Velvets and velveteens	" ...	4,391	3,470	3,686	3,209	2,742	2,911	3,161
Handkerchiefs ...	Dozens ...	22,331	19,800	25,322	18,914	17,552	23,326	25,408
Cotton yarn	Piculs ...	764	772	1,175	1,714	1,963	2,369	3,245
Woollen goods—								
Camlets	Pieces ...	9,629	9,490	9,633	8,906	9,103	8,801	10,970
Cloth, broad and medium	" ...	2,001	2,807	2,311	1,934	2,339	1,608	1,459
Lastings, plain and crape	" ...	3,632	3,100	3,384	2,984	3,443	3,352	4,289
Long ells	" ...	15,011	12,448	12,818	12,467	12,814	10,613	9,355
Lustrea, crape and figured	" ...	6,125	4,287	5,900	5,513	3,313	3,272	3,213
Spanish stripes ...	" ...	5,684	7,214	5,082	4,919	5,082	5,266	5,640
Metals—								
Lead	Piculs ...	17,636	16,334	19,628	31,805	13,056	14,722	16,608
Tin	" ...	4,931	2,876	4,952	5,099	6,800	4,961	5,013
Sundries—								
Bicho-de-mar	" ...	344	272	233	266	244	268	453
Cotton	" ...	12,382	6,348	4,111	2,440	2,249	62,217	19,615
Cuttle-fish	" ...	21,294	35,515	11,235	15,185	14,029	13,244	22,893
Dates, red and black	" ...	2,264	1,666	5,060	5,339	3,636	2,317	3,116
Nankeens	" ...	265	410	627	667	1,119	988	1,237
Pepper, black and white	" ...	7,047	7,110	8,878	5,994	5,143	5,583	5,657
Sandal-wood	" ...	3,843	3,499	4,375	3,451	4,108	4,581	5,423
Sapan-wood	" ...	1,942	2,312	1,520	1,946	1,913	1,079	1,147
Seaweed, cut and long	" ...	42,573	60,296	50,257	57,462	47,898	45,953	54,263
Shell-fish	" ...	208	345	618	264	106	198	127
Silk piece-goods ...	" ...	119	87	47	68	61	76	75
Sugar, brown	" ...	39,434	32,766	36,303	39,981	45,491	43,965	37,390
" white	" ...	51,950	42,414	44,782	56,432	77,227	41,122	43,064
" candy	" ...	2,132	2,308	2,196	2,745	3,671	3,019	3,070
Window-glass	Boxes ...	1,117	1,218	1,245	1,391	982	1,221	1,060

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, Consul.

British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1881.

(No. 6.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade for the Years 1875 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
China-ware	Piculs ...	10,569	14,157	11,332	6,079	5,046	12,141	12,592
China-root	" ...	3,335	3,933	3,942	6,750	2,461	4,788	6,320
Grass cloth	" ...	3,100	3,372	2,882	4,085	5,949	6,117	6,572
Hemp	" ...	19,636	28,198	32,469	29,795	29,779	40,985	27,650
Paper	" ...	47,606	62,474	79,692	96,675	100,528	106,244	111,421
Tallow, vegetable ...	" ...	2,747	2,132	3,837	6,207	4,560	7,697	7,664
Tea—								
Black	" ...	166,131	190,038	176,500	206,799	190,213	185,000	195,804
Brick	" ...	14,325	8,715	7,452	11,286	14,797	9,448	8,026
Dust	" ...	2,953	3,138	9,237	9,182	3,663	8,981	9,822
Green	" ...	65,322	48,830	51,477	40,316	40,368	57,015	59,681
Leaf	" ...	363	392	480	517	510	1,052	752
Tobacco—								
Prepared	" ...	56	22	16	10	...	376	339
Leaf and stalk	" ...	10,655	12,016	13,956	28,538	15,461	46,384	26,336

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, Consul.

British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

KIUNGCHOW.

Report on the Foreign Trade of Kiungchow during the year 1881.

A GLANCE at the three following Tables will show the progress of the foreign trade ever since the 1st April, 1876, on which day this port was declared open.

1. NET Value of the Trade in Foreign Vessels, *i.e.*, Foreign and Native Imports less re-Exports, and Native Exports of local origin only, excluding Treasure :—

				Imports.	Exports.	Total.
				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
1876 (9 months)	..	..	..	368,361	316,411	684,772
1877	..	..	..	604,619	604,704	1,209,323
1878	..	..	..	798,068	416,988	1,215,056
1879	..	..	..	823,128	550,291	1,373,419
1880	..	..	..	1,009,999	667,026	1,677,025
1881	..	..	..	1,061,872	759,871	1,821,743

2. FOREIGN Shipping, Entered and Cleared :—

						Total Tonnage.
1876 (9 months)	..	..	..	..	..	36,672
1877	..	..	..	..	..	62,656
1878	..	..	..	..	..	87,290
1879	..	..	..	..	..	106,362
1880	..	..	..	..	..	149,322
1881	..	..	..	..	..	230,280

3. TOTAL Dues and Duties paid to Chinese Government :—

						H. Taels	m.	c.	c.
1876 (9 months)	..	..	..	..	..	43,573	8	0	0
1877	..	..	..	..	..	63,150	7	2	9
1878	..	..	..	..	..	61,664	4	0	0
1879	..	..	..	..	..	68,989	9	8	5
1880	..	..	..	..	..	83,692	6	8	3
1881	..	..	..	..	..	83,134	0	1	9

Taking 5s. 7d. as the equivalent in 1881 of the Haikwan tael, the imports in that year were worth 296,439*l.*, the exports 212,131*l.*, and the total trade 508,570*l.* Re-exports are not included in these figures, but they amounted to a value of 231*l.* only. The value of the carrying trade was 509,032*l.* of which the proportion for British vessels was represented by 207,882*l.* The carrying trade should, however, properly include the imports and exports of treasure. These are not reckoned in the above valuation, which is based on that of the Customs Returns, but 33,357*l.* and 65,347*l.* are the respective items, or a total of 98,704*l.* The direct trade with foreign countries reached the value of 501,668*l.*, and with the other Treaty ports (two only, namely Swatow and Pakhoi) that of 7,133*l.*; but the trade with Hong Kong, which alone was represented by 491,849*l.*, included a large quantity of goods received from, or destined for, Chinese ports. The figures in the Shipping Table are apt to mislead, the fact being that, though there was a proportionately large amount of tonnage in 1881, the vessels employed mostly made this port only a place of call to complete their cargoes in their voyages to and from Haiphong, Tournon, Pakhoi, and

Hong Kong. As is apparent in the third Table, there was a decrease in the revenue receipts in 1881 as compared with 1880. This was principally owing to a smaller importation of opium, the causes of which I shall presently advert to. The most of the foreign trade of the port continues in the hands of Chinese, against whose mode of doing business the resident foreigners cannot compete with much success. The proximity of Hong Kong enables the Chinese dealer to get expeditiously by steamer such goods as he wants in quantities small enough to suit him. Notwithstanding this, the opening of the port will probably eventually receive a sufficient justification in the employment of foreign vessels, and the extended distribution of goods of British origin.

IMPORTS.

Foreign goods reached this port—

		H. Taels.	£
From Annam, to the value of	.. ..	17,251	= 4,816
Siam, ..	.. ..	12,419	3,467
Hong Kong, ..	.. ..	793,391	221,488
Pakhoi, ..	.. ..	83	23
Total	.. ..	823,144	229,794

of which 687 taels (192½) represented the portion afterwards re-exported leaving 822,457 taels, or 229,602½ as the net value, the corresponding amount for 1880 having been 826,850 Haikwan taels, and for 1879, 723,954 Haikwan taels. The imports from Annam were rice and sundries, and from Hong Kong, opium, piece-goods, metals, ginseng, raw cotton, cotton yarn, American flour, wheat, matches, kerosene oil, and miscellaneous articles from the Straits Settlements and Japan. Those from Siam were contained in a single sailing-vessel, and consisted of teak, rice, varnish, raw cotton, &c.

I have already alluded to a decrease in 1881 in the imports of opium as compared with the year 1880. The following Table will show that the total importation fell short of that in 1879 also:—

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.
	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.
Malwa ..	98 29	55,227	15 36	7,840	13 80	7,407
Patna ..	992 50	399,901	1,255 39	566,587	1,011 45	477,523
Benares ..	26 98	10,243	32 30½	14,072	8 18	3,797
Total ..	1,117 77	465,371	1,303 05	588,499	1,033 43	488,727

At the end of 1880 the local dealers took advantage of a temporary cessation of the Haifang (provincial defence) tax, the farm contract having expired by lapse of time, and the new one not having been completely entered into, to introduce large stocks from Kong Kong, which became available in 1881. Besides the import duty, the taxes payable on a chest of opium last year were:—

Provincial defence, nominally 30 taels, but actually 27 taels.	
Kaoli, ..	28 ..
Collected by one office, total	
nominally ..	58 ..
Li-kin and stamp duty ..	23 ..
Hainan coast defence, 6 dollars ..	4·2 ..
Total ..	79·4 ..

In the last quarter of the year, a new collector having endeavoured to enforce the payment of the full rate of the Provincial Defence and Kaoli taxes, for the benefit of the farmers of them, the five Guilds (Kuangchow, Ch'aochow, Kaochow, Foochow, and Kiungchow) that act as a sort of Chamber of Commerce in Hoihow, resisted, and even refused to allow the delivery of twenty-two chests that had been imported by Chinese dealers to take place. For two months there were no importations by Chinese, and the collector had, after referring the matter to Canton, to give in. The import of all kinds of opium in December quarter 1881 was, in consequence of the above, only 201 piculs as compared with 273 in the preceding, and 295 piculs in the June quarter of the same year. Much grumbling having been indulged in by the Chinese importers because they had to pay the *li-kin* and other taxes at once on landing their opium and passing it through the Maritime Customs, while the foreign merchants had to pay nothing beyond the import duty, so that the latter could sell cheaper (to persons who probably never thought it to be their duty to report their purchases to the different tax offices, which suffered in consequence), a reduction was made in January of this year in the Provincial Defence and Kaoli rates, which together are now 31 t. 3 m. 2 c. per chest. A chest of opium, if landed by a Chinese, is, therefore, supposed to now contribute 58 t. 5 m. 2 c. to the provincial and local revenues; but it is rumoured that there is shortly to be a further reduction in the hope of diminishing smuggling.

Malwa is too dear for the Hainan smokers. Patna is very much liked. Formerly it used to be locally mixed with Benares. This last sort obtained high prices in 1881. The absence of Persian opium from the Returns is again noticeable; all attempts to introduce it have been given up for some time. The local opium smokers declare it to be too hot to the taste. Chinese opium, as far as I can learn, is not brought into this part of the island—at least, in any noticeable quantities. A writer in the Taotai's Yamèn, who is fond of that grown in Yünnun, has to send to Pakhoi for it.

NET Imports of the Principal Cottons and Woollens during the past Three Years :—

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Pieces.	Values.	Pieces.	Values.	Pieces.	Values.
		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Shirtings—						
Grey	4,607	6,921	6,274	10,335	8,162	12,751
White, plain ..	11,651	24,544	21,309	48,755	28,905	62,398
Dyed	172	485	762	2,440	1,466	5,410
T-cloths	23,153	25,595	28,939	33,522	44,011	48,823
Drills, English ..	1,192	2,121	2,551	4,775	3,382	4,851
Camlets, English ..	180	1,592	216	2,291	287	2,876
Cloth, broad, medium, and habit	123	1,930	178	3,091	156	2,751
Lastings	186	1,616	240	2,110	358	3,268
Long ells	968	5,460	1,154	6,755	1,617	8,657
Woollen and cotton mixtures	80	478	291	2,124	430	3,151

The trade in the above is entirely in Chinese hands. Cotton goods classed as sundries were imported in 1881 to the value of 4,770 taels, more than twice the value of 1879. American drills do not appear to be appreciated here for they are not mentioned in the Customs Returns for 1881,

and the import fell from 598 pieces in 1879 to 149 in 1880. The trade in Dutch camlets, Spanish stripes, and lustres, is a very small one, but it has been extending. Kerosene oil, which got no separate mention in the Returns since 1878, was imported last year to the extent of 266½ piculs. The trade in foreign matches fell off a little, but the quantities taken were still large for the place, and nearly three times those of 1879. 1,053 piculs of cotton yarn arrived in 1881 against 468 piculs in 1880 and 123 piculs in 1879. There was an increase in 1881, compared with 1880, in American flour, ginseng (American, Japanese, and Corean), raw cotton, lead, quicksilver, and steel, but a decrease in iron and uncleaned (seed) cotton. The imports of foreign rice rose, principally owing to the removal at Haiphong of the restrictions against export, from 2,477·92 picula, in 1880 to 25,391·65 piculs in 1881, of which 9,823·15 piculs did not come directly from the producing countries. Of Hainan rice there are a large number of varieties, but it is not of superior quality or very abundant, and the cheapness of Annam rice makes ready sales. There was an increase on the whole in the imported foreign products of a miscellaneous class, such as beans, betel-nuts (decrease), cardamoms (decrease), cutch (decrease), dye-stuffs, Japanese paper fans, lamps, opium husk (said to be mixed by the savages with tobacco for chewing purposes), rattans, teak, towels, umbrellas, varnish (decrease), wheat (decrease).

Foreign goods are sent from Hoihow by junk to Chinglan, Chia-chik (through Shalo), and Wanchow, for distribution along the east coast of Hainan, to Howsuy, Tungsuy, and Puchin on the north end; to Tanchow in the west; and to the ports of Lingsuy and Yaichow for the south. Chiachik has been described to me as a place as large as Hoihow, and as being a mart of some importance, it having water communication with the interior, and supplying the districts of Lohui and Huitung. Foreign goods leave Hoihow, however, more frequently, I think, by the Konchew River for Konchew, which is a depôt for goods from the interior, and by the inner routes to Chingmai, Tingan, Linkao, and even to Chia-chik, between Hoihow and which there is communication by rivers unbroken except for a short distance. I do not find that much foreign produce is re-exported to the peninsula, which is supplied by other places with which its trade is carried on. I understand that the town of Luichow takes Benares opium, T-cloths, shirtings, cotton yarn, English camlets, raw cotton, &c. Haian derives its principal supply from Macao, with which it has a long established trade; but it is visited by junks from Hong Kong also. Junks from the same foreign ports go to Tanchow and Chia-chik in this island, and those from Macao go even as far as Lingsuy. The ports in Yulin Bay and of the Wênchang district, trade with Singapore, and may, for all that I know, receive opium therefrom. Junks from Singapore reaching the south are stated to be the means whereby the savages receive, through middlemen, gunpowder and shot, to supply which to them is a crime in Chinese law.

Chinese Goods.—The importations were:—

	H. Taels.	£
From Pakhoi, value	268	75
„ Hong Kong, value	239,287	66,801
	239,555	66,876
Re-exports to Hong Kong for foreign coun- tries and to Siam	140	39
Net value	239,415	66,837

In 1880 the net value was 183,149 Haikwan taels, and in 1879 99,174 Haikwan taels. The principal classes of goods will be found in the following comparative Table of values:—

	1879.	1880.	1881.
	H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Beans	3,282	4,939	5,076
Cotton, raw	13,974	57,653	111,455
Hemp	7,586	16,243	12,349
Lily flowers, dried	6,852	12,524	10,674
Medicines	27,894	32,043	35,303
Nankeens	8,929	11,099	15,095
Silk, piece-goods	3,872	5,499	6,458
Vermicelli	12,998	24,066	20,995
Wax, white	2,011	3,242	7,065

The hemp, said to come from Hankow, is manufactured into bags and ropes. Rope-making is one of the industries of the town of Hoihow.

EXPORTS.

The following is the Customs' Summary of destinations (re-exports not included) :—

	H. Taels.	£
To Annam value	3,367	940
Siam	2,136	596
Hong Kong, for foreign countries ..	358,792	100,163
Total to foreign countries *	364,295	101,699
To Hong Kong, for Chinese ports ..	370,378	103,397
Swatow	7,617	2,126
Pakhoi	17,581	4,998
Total for Chinese ports † ..	395,576	110,431

The minor shipments in foreign vessels in 1861 were agar-agar, bêche de mer, coir, cuttle-fish, dried fish, honey, cow horns, indigo, kênch'a, split rattans, melon seeds, sharks' fins, shell-fish, cow sinews, deer skins, tobacco, wrapper leaves, yellow wax, fragrant woods. There was a general increase in this portion of the trade. Indigo, costing in Hoihow 8 dol. 50 c., is sent to Pakhoi to be mixed with the product there costing 6 dol. 50 c. à picul. Mr. Stuhlmann, of the Customs, in his Kiungchow Trade Report for 1877, writes thus about kênch'a: "A preparation for adulterating tea. Its name, kênch'a (i.e., root-tea), is an abbreviation of Lê-ti-shêng-kên, or *Briophyllum calycinum*, the Chinese term, which implies that the leaf when it falls develops a root, being intended seemingly to be descriptive of the characteristic manner in which this plant can propagate itself. It grows abundantly on roadsides and in waste places in this neighbourhood, and its thick and fleshy leaves are gathered all the year round. These are cut into strips, and the pieces exposed to the sun for several days, when, being still slightly moist, they are rolled up by hand so as to resemble tea, and after being completely dried, are ready for exportation." It is satisfactory to know that the export of this spurious tea, which is said to go mostly to Macao, is but a small one, the total in 1860 having been 1,809·39 piculs, valued at 1,143 taels.

The principal articles of export will be found in the following comparative Table :—

* In 1880, 332,577 H. taels; and in 1879, 281,508 H. taels.

† In 1880, 334,449 H. taels; and in 1879, 268,783 H. taels.

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.
	Piculs.	H. taels.	Piculs.	H. taels.	Piculs.	H. taels.
Betel-nuts ..	383 02	2,252	4,969 56	52,468	4,361 57	39,703
Galangal ..	5,661 57	6,583	4,918 87	8,910	6,956 86	15,202
Glue, cow..	2,800 50	13,220	2,228 05	12,814	2,161 01	12,357
Grasscloth—						
Fine ..	52 10	7,148	23 38	2,848	744 00	51,334
Coarse ..	691 16	43,257	1,271 95	78,825	17 38	865
Ground-nut cake..	14,612 33	17,968	27,828 77	31,681	61,089 02	76,990
Hemp ..	786 70	17,237	445 25	11,619	594 15	15,123
Hides, cow and buffalo ..	490 36	2,453	2,392 74	17,804	2,435 12	23,587
Leather ..	3,965 71	39,853	3,218 50	35,247	3,615 00	45,591
„ trunks ..	277 43	4,553	322 43	5,384	323 33	5,544
Lunggan pulp ..	275 78	2,549	242 71	2,481	1,412 48	11,291
Medicines ..	2,412 58	22,456	1,394 48	21,405	3,824 21	34,990
	Pieces.		Pieces.		Pieces.	
Pigs ..	4,283	19,138	3,399	17,677	13,377	77,211
	Piculs.		Piculs.		Piculs.	
Sesamum seeds ..	21,864 38	69,382	11,815 29	45,113	18,454 23	54,155
Silk—						
Wild, raw ..	233 74	18,260	72 06	5,405	377 16	34,292
Fish lines ..	24 50	5,586	36 24	9,625	43 74	11,119
Sugar—*						
Brown ..	47,023 59	134,674	67,603 70	162,574	58,761 96	132,771
White ..	17,225 31	71,498	24,536 42	89,620	13,113 29	47,964
Tallow, animal ..	2,688 13	18,676	3,005 74	19,804	2,671 26	17,978

There was a bad crop of sugar last year on the peninsula, and only a moderate one in Hainan. The Hainan prices were very high, preventing the resident foreigners from buying much, and the Chinese exporters sold at a loss. This year's crop is said to be a good one, and it is estimated that about 130,000 piculs will be the total production of this island, and 250,000 of the peninsula. The season commences in Hainan in January, and lasts till August. The opening prices this year were 4 dol. 20 c. per bag of 112 catties, but they soon fell to 3 dol. 80 c. At Hainan, which is the chief port of shipment of the sugar from the peninsula, the season begins in the end of June, and is over in about two months; the most of the sugar being sold at the outset, and sent off without delay by junk to Macao, where it is re-exported to Hong-Kong, North China, &c. A German merchant, resident in this port, attempted last year to buy sugar in Hainan, which he meant to bring over, under transit pass, to Hoihow for shipment by steamer to Hong Kong; but the producers declined to sell, giving various excuses, the truth, probably, being that the Macao dealers would not allow their trade to be interfered with.

The most of the galangal sent off from this port last year was destined for Germany. The best kind comes from the Luichow Hills, through Hainan; an inferior sort, that reaches Hoihow through Howsuy, is 50 per cent. cheaper, being smaller. The digging out of the galangal roots commences in February, and the export season lasts till October. The crop of ground-nuts having been exceptionally large in 1881, the manufacture of cake was carried on to a greater extent than usual. This caused the ground-nut oil to be very cheap, and the opportunity was

* 1 picul of sugar weighs 112 catties (149½ lbs.) instead of 100 catties (133½ lbs.).

taken to send some to London as an experiment. Correspondence is now going on as to future supplies. There was a large demand for hides, and prices went up to 16 dol. 50 c. per picul. They go to China, Saigon, Singapore, and even Europe. It is believed that the export will steadily increase. It will be seen from the comparative Table of exports that the shipments of sesamum seeds in 1881 fell short of those in 1879. The crop in the latter year was a very good one, and the prices were from 352 to 365 dollars per picul; in 1881, they were 415 to 425 dollars. The Chinese official guide to Hainan states that the natives do not themselves make much use of the oil. The best wild raw silk comes from Wénchang. Last year's prices were low. The cause of the insignificant export in 1880 was that the yield was limited, and was nearly all used up locally in the manufacture of pongees. The exported hemp is destined for Swatow, where it is used in the making of grasscloth. Quantities of the screw-pine fibre that, when weaved with the hemp, becomes the Hainan fine grasscloth (the screw-pine portion giving, it is said, the material its coolness), reach Wénchang from Singapore and Luichow. The screw-pine fibre, by itself, is made into bage, and is the basis of coarse grasscloth. A glance at the comparative Table will show that the fine grasscloths have taken the place of the coarse as to largeness of export; this is owing to the reclassification, by the Maritime Customs, of the qualities that Mr. Scott referred to in his Trade Report for 1880 as about to take place. The betel-nuts of this island have a great reputation in China. Cheaper nuts are imported into Hainan from Singapore, solely in order to be mixed with them prior to exportation—in the proportion of one to ten, according to the Customs Trade Report for 1880. Live pigs were taken away by nearly every steamer that was bound to Hong Kong. Many of the steamers proceeded first to Macao with deck cargoes of these animals; but I find that Macao is not entered in the Customs Returns as a port cleared for. I am told that 1 dollar is paid as freight on each pig, and that from 1 dollar to 1 dol. 50 c. is the amount of profit.

A comprador, in foreign employment, has kindly supplied me with the following list of the principal cargoes, in junks, clearing from various parts of Hainan and the peninsula.

From Wénchang (Ports Chinglan and Puchin).—Yellow and white silk, lungngan pulp, seaweed, coarse and fine grasscloth, cocoa-nuts, cocoa-nut fibre cloth, galangal, sea slugs, tortoise-shell rind, cotton cloth, silk piece-goods, silk and cotton mixtures, pigs, shell-fish (conch), turtle, cocoa-nut and tea oils.

From Chia-chik (junks leaving by Shalo Port for Kongmun in Kwangtung, Macao, &c.).—Betel-nuts, hides, deer skins, deer horns, prepared *Artemisia moxa* (for the manufacture of Indian ink), sesamum seeds, yellow silk, cocoa-nuts, pigs bishopswort, lily seeds, lungngan pulp, rattans, wrapper leaves, sugar, woods.

From Chingmai, through port of Tungsuy.—Sugar, ground-nut oil and cake, sesamum seeds, indigo, old man's rice.

From Linkao and Howsuy (junks clearing at Sinying).—Fish maws, cuttle fish, sea slugs, wild galangal, brick refuse sugar, sugar (chiefly brown), green and black beans, shell fish.

From Tanchow (clearance port, Sinying; junks going to Hoihow, Kongmun, Macao, and Hong Kong).—Melou seeds, brick refuse sugar, green beans, sharks' fins and skins, salt fish, tin, iron, fishing-lines, fungi, sesamum seeds, cuttle fish, shell fish.

From Yaichow, through port of Pili.—Kienan-wood scent, sandal-wood shavings, melon seeds, green and black beans, rattans, coffin planks, willow wood, fungi, salt fish, deer horn, velvet.

From Lingsuy (junks leaving for Macao, Kongmun, &c.).—Sugar

(chiefly brown), pigs, ebony, pearl barley, ground-nut oil and cake, marine delicacies, sesamum seeds, rattans, plank.

From Wanchow.—Bishopswort, betel-nuts, brick refuse sugar, indigo, pigs, dried prawns.

From Tingan and Kiungshan districts, and other places, through Hoihow.—Betel-nuts, sesamum seeds, honey, yellow wax, yellow and white silk, silk piece-goods, silk and cotton mixtures, lunggan pulp, fishing-lines, roots of *Dendrobium cerata*, wrapper leaves, indigo, horse and cow hides, deer skins, armadillo skins, cow horns, cow glue, deer-horn velvet, cardamoms, bitter cardamoms, snake skins, tallow, mats, pigs, sugar, beans, fungi, prepared *Artemesia moxa*, wheat. Junks go to Haiphong, Pakhoi, Hong Kong, Canton, Swatow, &c.

From Luichow (junks to Macao and Hong Kong).—Mats, galangal, cloth made from roots of *Dolichos trilobus* (?), coarse grasscloth, black beans, ground-nut oil and cake.

From Haian.—Sugar, galangal, ground-nut oil and cake, hemp, in junks to Macao and Hong Kong.

The section of the Chinese official guide to Hainan that describes the products of this island is a lengthy one, but deserves to be translated into English, as new articles of commerce might be brought to light. The work would be somewhat troublesome, as many of the plants, for instance, would have first to be sent away for botanical determination. As I expect to be shortly removed from this port, I shall not be able to undertake the translation. Copper is to be found in Tanchow and Changhua, and silver in Yaichow and Tanchow. Gold also occurs in various places. The official guide just referred to gives a long account of the steps taken, about eighteen years ago, to prevent a Chinese named Lin, who had come with certain foreigners to Hainan in a steamer, from proceeding to the country on the borders of Tanchow and Changhua, occupied by savages, to search for copper and precious metals. It appears that he had really obtained permission from the Financial Commissioner of Kuangtung to work the copper mines, but the *literati* of the island sent a Memorial to the Governor-General and the Governor against Lin's attempt, as likely, when carried out, to destroy the magnetic influences of the mountains in which the mines are. The memorialists instanced the disasters, in the shape of rebellion, that had been the consequence of the reopening of the mines for a short period in the beginning of the reign of Kia K'ing (closing years of last century). The high authorities thus addressed, apparently not venturing to go against the *literati*, cancelled the permission given to Lin, on the ground that he had sought the assistance of foreigners, and brought them and the steamer to a non-Treaty port, for which no passport had been granted. It was decreed that the mines were to remain closed, and that Lin was to be punished.

Transit Trade.—No transit-passes for goods going inland were applied for last year. For goods to be exported six passes only, namely, for 1,285 piculs of galangal, were issued. The German merchant who made use of them has given me the figures below to show the saving effected by bringing galangal over from Haian under the pass-system.

Without pass—					Mace c.
Duties at Haian ..	..	..	Per picul ..	..	1 8
<i>Li-tin</i> , &c., at Hoihow ..	..	..	..	..	1 8
Export duty at ditto ..	..	..	..	..	1 0
Total ..					4 6
With transit pass—					
Export duty and half-duty ..	..	..	Per picul ..	..	1 5
Saving ..					3 1

Similarly, I am told, there would be a saving of about 2 mace per picul on sugar brought hither from the same place and re-exported.

Revenue.—The Maritime Customs receipts during the year were these:—

				H. taels	m.	c.	c.
From general trade	..	..	..	47,688	1	6	9
„ opium	..	..	..	31,002	9	0	0
„ tonnage	..	..	..	4,378	7	0	0
„ transit trade	..	..	..	64	2	5	0

Making a total of 23,208*l*.

Shipping.—The total tonnage (entered and cleared) 230,280, was made up as follows:—

				Vessels.	Tons.
British	..	..	..	226	76,072
American	..	..	..	92	36,828
German	..	..	..	82	43,270
Chinese	..	..	..	126	73,260
Siamese	..	..	..	2	850

The Chinese vessels were steamers belonging to the Chinese Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, which has an establishment here. They ran with great regularity during the year between Hong Kong, this port, and Haiphong, and occasionally to Tonron. The Company's steamer "Kangch'i," is the only vessel coming to this port that has proper accommodation for European passengers. It is almost needless to state that these Chinese steamers are treated by the Maritime Customs in every respect as foreign vessels, and that this is the cause of their appearance in the Returns relating to foreign trade. The following Table of percentages, from one of the Customs Returns for 1881, shows the shares taken by the vessels of the different nationalities in the total trade, and the payment of dues and duties at this port:—

				Total Trade.	Total Dues and Duties.
British	..	..	..	40·84	39·66
American	..	..	..	15·12	15·76
German	..	..	..	15·03	13·91
Siamese	..	..	..	·72	·91
Chinese Merchants' Steam Navigation Company	..	..	..	28·29	29·76

GENERAL.

The revised Treaty between the German Empire and China having provided for the establishment of bonded warehouses at the open ports, the German Consul at Canton, within whose Consular jurisdiction Hainan lies, applied at the end of the year to the foreign merchants here for their opinions as to the possibility of instituting such a system at Kiungchow. Their reply was that the port was not yet prepared for the innovation.

The resurvey of the Hainan Straits was continued throughout 1881 by Her Majesty's ship "Magpie." I am glad to be able to state that her survey was completed in the first week of January of this year. The corrected chart will not, however, be published till 1883. Surveying

operations, principally on the west coast, were also carried on by the French aviso "Le Parseval," belonging to the Naval Division of Cochin China. Her work was performed at a disadvantage, as, unlike Her Majesty's ship "Magpie," she possessed no steam-launches, and had only one surveying officer on board, in addition to which, she is of greater draught of water. She left this neighbourhood in the end of December for Haiphong, but she will, I hear, return before long and commence a survey along the coast of the Liuchow Peninsula—which has, by the way, hitherto erroneously appeared on maps as the Lienchow Peninsula.

The German steamer "Quinta," carrying goods and Chinese passengers from Hong Kong to Saigon, was wrecked, on the 4th October, at Tinhosa, while trying to take refuge from a furious storm that then raged along the south of China. One of the anchor chains parted, and she was at once driven on shore. There were more than 100 passengers in her; three of them (two women and a child) were drowned in an attempt to land the same day, they having been carried out to sea, after two gigs that were taking the women and children from the steamer had been driven among the rocks by the current and capsized. In consequence of this the rest of the passengers were kept on board until the next morning, when they were all safely landed. On the 6th all hope of getting the steamer off was abandoned, she having filled with water to the water-line, and the crew were employed instead in landing stores and putting up tents. That night fishermen began to come to the island and give molestation, so that an armed guard had to be mounted. The next morning about 100 piratical boats came alongside the steamer, and the conduct of the men in them was such that the captain and crew had, in order to save their lives, to leave it, on which plundering at once commenced. This continued throughout the 7th, in the evening of which the pirates set fire to the steamer, by accident, as is supposed. This did not put an end to the plundering, for it went on till the 11th, on which day five or six soldiers arrived, and, with the assistance of the crew, drove the wreckers away. They returned, however, the next day, and attempted to carry the provisions and stores away from the encampment. They overpowered the soldiers, but were driven to their boats by the crew, who charged them with bayonets. On the 14th a party of men from two newly-arrived junks having attempted to land on the island, but were repulsed; the captain sent the second mate with a Chinaman off in the soldiers' boat to seek assistance from the mandarins on the opposite coast. Thirty-five soldiers shortly afterwards arrived, after which no molestation appears to have been attempted. The shipwrecked people were at length relieved and taken away by the Chinese Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Kangch'i," on the 17th October, the Commissioner of Customs here having persuaded the Taotai to dispatch her to the scene of the wreck immediately after her arrival the day before in Hoihow.

The news of the wreck reached this place on the 14th by means of letters sent overland and by junk, by the captain, and she was the first vessel that could be employed on the service, no other having entered the port during the interval, or being within reach. There being civil and military mandarins at Wanchow, which is only a few miles distant from Tinhosa, their delay in sending assistance is worthy of notice. It is well known that the wreckers came from a village called Sên Tan, and it subsequently leaked out that some men, sent by the sub-Prefect of Wanchow to make lists of the persons in possession of the stolen things, were chased out of the village. It was even stated that the villagers fortified themselves against the Taotai when he went in person to Wanchow in November. The captain of the "Quinta" having made an official report of the plundering to the German Consul at Canton, the latter dispatched His Imperial

German Majesty's gun-boat "Wolf" to the scene of the wreck, and requested her Commander to inspect the hull and to state whether, in his opinion, the "Quinta" could, if she had not been set fire to, have been towed to Hong Kong and repaired? The reply having apparently been in the affirmative, the German Consul, who had been in vain demanding the arrest of the plunderers and the recovery of the booty, sent in a claim for a large amount against the Chinese Government for losses sustained. The local authorities, finding themselves unable to make the arrests, or being unwilling to do so, coolly denied the occurrence of the plundering, though the fact must have been known to them from the examination of the Chinese passengers by a mandarin that was sent down in the "Kangch'i" to attend to their relief. Not content with the denial, the officials declared that the goods found on shore had been salvaged, and produced some men who deposed that they had been hired by a (fictitious) comprador, or linguist, from the steamer to land as much of the cargo as possible, for which service they were paid with broken or damaged parcels of tea, &c., and that the same man, after consultation with a foreigner, sold them what they had landed—thirteen boats' loads—for 52 dollars. A constant correspondence went on between the Governor-General in Canton and the German Consul until at length, under pressure, the former dispatched General Pêng from Canton to Tinhosa, with orders to investigate the matter locally. He travelled in one of the Provincial Government's steam cruisers, taking another of them with him; and the result of his visit was, that after a few days he handed a number of prisoners over to the local mandarins. No cargo was found, everything having already been sold and sent away. The above is the history of the case up to the present date. The "Quinta" belonged to Flensburg.

Piracies on the coast of Hainan are not uncommon events. A steam gun-boat is at present being built in Hong Kong for the Local Government, which, when completed, will be made use of on this coast exclusively. It is understood that it has been presented by a young inhabitant of Canton, who hopes by this expensive means to obtain official rank that would otherwise be beyond his reach. He has also been promised the command of the steamer. I hear that the Commandant at Hoihow is likely to obtain a steam-launch for local cruizings. This officer, an ex-compradore, speaks English, and associates very freely with the foreigners here. He is treated by the Taotai as a confidential adviser on international matters. He took up his post in the beginning of October 1881, and I am glad to be able to record of him that he then caused, and still causes, a bright light to be exhibited every night from each of the two forts at the entrance of the river at Hoihow. The lanterns serve as guiding lights to boats coming from the roadstead, and are very useful, as the land is quite flat, and cannot be seen.

The Taotai left Kiungchow in the beginning of November on a peculiar expedition, which has kept him and the Chên'tai (General of the Kiungchow Brigade) away ever since. The savages, during the earlier portions of last year, made frequent incursions into some of the Chinese-inhabited parts of the island. A Censor having, in a Memorial to the throne, expressed his belief that this state of matters was but the natural consequence of the mismanagement of the late Hakka rebellion in Hainan, orders came from Peking through the Governor-General to the local authorities to quiet the savages and take such measures as would secure lasting peace. The Taotai, who has a special authority here to make use of military or naval force when necessary, accordingly undertook the work of pacification in the south-east, and the Chên'tai that in the south. The former at first made Wanchow his head-quarters, and took the opportunity, being near the spot, to look into the question of the plundering of the "Quinta"—

with what result has been seen. Having, after some delay, obtained from the savages to the west of Wanchow promises to send hostages for their future good behaviour, he went off to the country north of it, where he had to fight. The savages there having thereupon given in, he returned to chastise the tribes who had promised hostages, nothing having been seen of any such. When this has been done he will, it is stated, proceed to Lingsuy to assist the Chént'ai, who, by all accounts, does not appear to have been very successful in his operations. He managed, however, about two months ago, to capture nineteen pirates, two of whom were Annamese, that he came upon near Yaichow. Reinforcements were sent to him in January. Train-bands, under the charge of Committees of the local gentry, are the standing means of defence against raids by the savages.

My short stay here has shown me that the Chinese in this port and its neighbourhood are very friendly in their demeanour to foreigners; and visitors from other ports have, while walking about, been much struck by the absence of unfriendly looks and insult.

(Signed)

A. FRATER, *Consul*.

Kiungchow, March 3, 1882.

NEWCHWANG.

Report on the Trade of Newchwang for the Year 1881.

IN remarking on the trade of the port for the past year, I must premise that, as I only returned to my post late last autumn—that is, just before the business season closed—I have been obliged to work entirely on information supplied by the foreign residents, to whom, as well as to the Commissioner of Customs, who courteously placed his Returns at my disposal, I beg now to offer my acknowledgments.

The total value (net) of the trade of the port amounts to 6,080,432 taels, equal, at 5*s.* 9*d.* per tael, to 1,748,124*l.*, which shows a slight decrease as compared with the trade of the previous year, and this decrease would have been greater if it had not been for the increased export of beans. The following comparative Table will help to elucidate this fact:—

		1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Foreign imports	..	2,075,862	1,541,288	..	534,574
Native imports	..	1,295,803	987,081	..	308,722
Exports	..	3,353,371	3,552,063	198,692	..
Net values	..	6,725,036	6,080,432		
Total decrease	..	644,604			

Out of the decreased importations, foreign opium is responsible to the extent of 434,728 taels; but, apart from this fact, there is no doubt that business was greatly affected by the action of the Swatow native Guild, who refused to ship produce for this port because they disapprove of the Customs withdrawing certain facilities for doing business from one of their number, and thus tried to "Boycott" the foreigner.

For a whole month no vessel entered the port, about 100 native shops failed, and trade was generally in an unsatisfactory state. Towards the close of the season, however, the Guild having been forced to cease their intimidating action, a fleet of sailing-vessels arrived, and matters improved.

Opium.—It is, perhaps, too soon to prophesy the extinction of the foreign opium trade here in consequence of the increased cultivation of the poppy in this and adjoining provinces; but I hear that the opposition of the Chinese officials has ceased to be strenuously exerted; and I have before me a Proclamation issued by the authorities at Moukden, stating that foreign opium is only allowed to be sold at the shops, but not smoked on the premises, as these shops are apt to become a resort for thieves and bad characters to the detriment of the locality. The amount of drug sold here last year is far less than it has ever been since the port was opened to trade, and 122 per cent. under the amount sold in 1880. The decrease in Malwa is specially noticeable. The following Table shows the number of piculs imported since 1877 each year:—

Year.	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Total.
	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
1877 ..	988 00	36 00	43 20	31 00	1,098 20
1878 ..	1,112 25	57 40	27 40	26 00	1,223 05
1879 ..	2,141 34	98 40	62 40	151 00	2,453 14
1880 ..	1,077 34	30 30	54 60	32 48	1,194 60
1881 ..	358 56	39 80	44 40	10 82	553 58

The price of Malwa at the beginning of the season was 580 taels per chest, but it soon fell to 550 taels. In August and September it was quoted at 500 taels, but in October the price again rose to 550 taels, the report of the native crop being unfavourable, for the heavy rains had spoiled it, and in many places it never attained maturity.

Patna was 26 taels and Benares 10 taels per chest cheaper than in 1880.

I hear that at least four-fifths of the native opium is smuggled, and its comparative cheapness will be sure to cause it to find a readier sale than the Indian drug if the manufacturer succeeds in making it more palatable to the Chinese taste. The last mode adopted is adulterating the native drug with a sort of slime produced by boiling down pig's skin.

The following Table shows the principal imports, exclusive of opium, of which I have already treated, for the past three years:—

			1879.	1880.	1881.
Shirtings, grey ..	Pieces	..	205,433	90,670	74,381
„ white ..	„	..	23,202	16,744	15,100
„ dyed ..	„	..	10,835	3,434	50
T-cloths ..	„	..	141,161	178,720	74,200
Drills, English ..	„	..	38,709	22,800	48,589
„ American ..	„	..	95,260	59,838	118,845
Sheetings, English ..	„	..	12,975	31,598	14,945
„ American ..	„	..	71,597	49,855	33,075
Chintzes, &c. ..	„	..	12,246	9,631	3,482
Turkey red cloths ..	„	..	8,732	14,914	19,948
Mahommedan red cloths ..	„	..	3,915	2,010	3,538
Muslins and lawns ..	„	..	15,490	3,584	4,512
Twills ..	„	..	10,330	6,990	8,851
Velvet and velveteens ..	„	..	3,044	2,421	3,948
Cottonades ..	„	..	15,635	11,406	9,074
Handkerchiefs ..	Dozens	..	13,393	13,170	23,180
Camlets, English ..	Pieces	..	2,640	2,488	3,163
Lastings ..	„	..	7,753	9,621	9,429
„ crape ..	„	..	2,970	2,153	3,623
Lustres and Orleans ..	„	..	9,079	3,430	4,140
Long ells ..	„	..	1,518	1,384	780
Spanish stripes ..	„	..	548	801	712
Cloth, broad and medium ..	„	..	200	550	16
„ Russian ..	„	..	1,370	950	695
Iron, bar ..	Piculs	..	76,457	32,870	14,843
„ nail-rod ..	„	..	27,249	15,384	9,063
„ wire ..	„	..	1,535	1,567	1,332
„ hoops and old iron ..	„	..	104,600	68,045	50,217
Steel ..	„	..	4,268	431	629
Lead ..	„	..	5,584	2,209	3,137
Tin plates ..	„	..	1,120	..	1,519
Copper sheathing ..	Slabs	..	..	137	..
Bags ..	Piculs	..	1,181	331	444
	Pieces	..	373,060	158,100	312,227

			1879.	1880.	1881.
Brass buttons, foreign ..	Gross ..	14,552	8,855	7,900	
„ „ native ..	Piculs ..	1,127	785	618	
Brass-ware ..	„ ..	407	676	272	
Clocks ..	Pieces ..	2,736	2,221	1,759	
Dyes and colours ..	Bottles ..	28,638	79,168	110,038	
Fans ..	Pieces ..	616,639	869,401	784,950	
Grass-cloth, coarse ..	Piculs ..	798	523	435	
Lead, red ..	„ ..	1,405	..	..
„ „ yellow ..	„ ..	1,223	231	456	
„ „ white ..	„ ..	2,759	2,649	1,431	
Matches ..	Gross ..	21,579	52,374	66,954	
Medicines ..	Piculs ..	8,575	5,311	3,449	
Nankeens ..	„ ..	128	1,196	1,780	
Needles ..	Mille ..	121,485	105,304	161,425	
Oil, kerosene ..	Gallons ..	1,590	6,445	12,000	
Paper, 1st quality ..	Piculs ..	7,747	5,192	2,765	
„ „ 2nd quality ..	„ ..	6,546	12,553	6,339	
„ „ joss ..	„ ..	2,513	1,485	1,714	
Pepper, black ..	„ ..	1,435	757	1,011	
Preserves ..	„ ..	1,959	4,406	2,942	
Rice ..	„ ..	2,199	277	..	
Sapan-wood ..	„ ..	15,536	4,847	4,051	
Seaweed ..	„ ..	28,525	38,438	19,876	
Silk piece-goods ..	Pieces ..	943	868	672	
Sugar, brown ..	Piculs ..	91,117	88,757	74,418	
„ „ white ..	„ ..	16,820	41,628	25,880	
„ „ candy ..	„ ..	7,076	9,271	9,660	
Tobacco, prepared ..	„ ..	6,629	13,353	6,184	
Wax, white ..	„ ..	257	54	222	

Cotton goods, taken one with another, show a slight decrease, viz., 78,500 pieces as compared with the import of 1880. There was a very good market for English and American drills, especially the latter for Corea, but, on the other hand, the sale of T-cloths and shirtings fell off, the quality being said to be inferior to that of former years. Dyed shirtings did not retain their colour, and very few were sold. The market for sheetings was not good, as prices in Shanghae were too high to suit the purses of the Chinese here.

Turkey red cloths are much appreciated, and the import has in two years more than doubled itself. Handkerchiefs show an increase of over 10,000 dozen above last year's importation. Many new and gaudy patterns have been introduced, and as they are now made larger, and comparatively cheaper than chintzes, they have to a great extent superseded the rise of the latter in making garments for the rising Chinese generation.

We have 1,162 pieces of woollen goods more than were imported in 1880. Camlets and crape lastings were cheaper than they used to be, and so found a ready sale. Lustres were in favour, as being more varied in colour.

Prices of cotton and woollen goods at the beginning and end of the season are here given:—

		Tls. c.	Tls. c.
Grey shirtings, 8½ lbs. . .	..	1 30	1 42
White shirtings, 60 reeds ..	..	1 45	2 02
T-cloths, 6 lbs. . .	..	0 91	1 21
„ 7 lbs. . .	..	1 17	1 35
Drills, English ..	..	2 16	1 60
„ American ..	..	3 20	3 10
Sheetings, American ..	..	2 88	2 2.75
„ English ..	..	2 00	2 49
Camlets ..	..	9 70	10 90
Lastings ..	..	9 00	10 50
Long ells ..	..	5 75	5 54

Iron shows a falling-off. There was an excessive import in 1879, and at the beginning of last season there was a large stock on hand.

Lead was in demand for Corea, and tin plates find favour, as the Chinese are attracted by the variety of colour seen in the oxydized tin.

Of miscellaneous foreign imports, we observe an increase in dyes on account of their cheapness, matches (especially "Fürth's Vienna"), needles, which are sent in large quantities to Corea, and kerosene oil, the import of which has nearly doubled itself in a year, as it is so much cheaper than it was.

Among native imports, nankeens have found a fair market, as the Kaichow cotton crop having been damaged by heavy rains both last year and the year before, native cloth was not to the fore.

The failure of many bean-cake honges of long standing, and small banks, in the middle of the year, created a temporary panic, and consequently, as purchases had to be made in ready cash, the holders of sugar and silk piece-goods found it difficult to realize satisfactory rates.

EXPORTS.

The principal exports for the past three years are given in the Table below :—

		1879.	1880.	1881.
Beans	Piculs	1,853,444 00	2,120,819 00	2,261,067 00
Bean-cake ... ..	..	1,800,523 00	1,350,918 00	1,443,313 00
Bean-oil ... ..	..	11,630 00	26,935 00	23,532 00
Deer-horns	Pairs	690	1,079	854
Fungus	Piculs	553 00	1,068 00	925 00
Ginseng, native ..	..	2,306 00	2,533 00	2,199 00
„ Corean, 1st quality ..	..	99 00	111 00	171 00
„ „ 2nd quality ..	..	67 65	68 00	93 88
„ wild ... ..	..	1 56	2 94	1 64
Medicines ... ..	..	6,774 00	10,759 00	11,632 00
Melon-seeds ... ..	..	16,191 00	16,670 00	16,826 00
Prawns, dried ... ..	..	4,797 00	3,412 00	7,226 00
Samahu . . . . .	..	11,359 00	16,268 00	16,865 00
Silk, wild, raw ..	..	61 00	1,368 00	935 00
Skins, of all kinds ..	Pieces	17,665	46,919	108,155

Although the exports do not much exceed those of 1880, their value is for the first time in the annals of the port greater than that of the imports, and that by 1,023,694 taels. The harvest of peas was good, and prices were generally low. Bean-cake varied from 2.80 to 3.35 taels per 10 piculs; peas, from 2.30 to 2.72 taels per 300 catties; and oil, from 2.55 to 3.08 taels per 95 catties. Seven-ninths of the export of bean-cake went to Swatow, the rest going to Shanghai, Amoy, and Foochow,

being probably destined for Formosan sugar plantations. Of peas, about three-fifths of the whole amount exported was shipped to Hong Kong, Amoy and Swatow together also taking fully as much. Most of the bean-oil was shipped to Amoy. The increase in the export of raw silk and skins of all kinds the last two years must be noticed. A good deal of silk was also exported in junks from the small ports down the coast during winter.

Freights were better during October and November than they have been for years, and in one instance 43 cents per picul was obtained for a charter hence to Amoy.

SHIPPING.

The first vessel of the season arrived on the 28th March, and the last left on the 22nd November. On comparing the shipping with former years, one observes an increase in the number of British steamers—and British tonnage now far exceeds the tonnage of all other nationalities put together—as may be seen by the following Table :—

				1879.		1880.		1881.	
				No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British steamers	..	..		60	41,204	72	51,547	90	66,929
„ sailers	..	..		81	29,512	72	25,172	70	24,227
				141	70,716	144	76,719	160	91,156
Foreign steamers	..	..		29 }	89,025	{ 46 }	84,428	{ 24 }	67,942
„ sailers	..	..		184 }		{ 148 }		{ 148 }	

Casualties.—The French barque “Solidor,” 241 tons, ran on the banks near Kaichow on her way from Tien-tsin hither, and arrived in a leaky condition, but was able to go to Shanghai in ballast to be docked and repaired. A Siamese barque, “Kimyungtai,” master, R. Kofoed, was wrecked near Basil Bay in Corea. The crew, consisting of Chinese and Siamese, were well treated by the authorities, and sent to this port overland. Some of them suffered from frost-bite, and one Siamese died on the way between Moukden and this port.

(Signed) HERBERT J. ALLEN, *Consul.*
Newchwang, April 1, 1882.

NINGPO.

Report on the Trade of Ningpo during the Year 1881.

THE gross value of the trade of Ningpo during the year 1881, as shown by Customs statistics is, 13,593,064 Haikwan taels, equal at 5s. 9d. per tael to 3,908,005*l.* 18*s.* The following Table gives the comparative amounts of exports and imports during the three last years :—

	1879.	1880.	1881.
	H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Foreign imports	6,803,105	5,981,239	7,233,289
Native imports	1,715,773	1,628,728	1,822,522
Exports	4,869,972	5,131,929	4,537,223
Total	13,388,850	12,741,896	13,593,064

It will be seen from this that there is a large increase in foreign imports, a smaller one in native imports, but a slight decrease in exports.

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

Opium, of course, heads the list. 9,146 chests valued at 4,440,586 Haikwan taels were imported in the year under review. The total is thus divided among the various descriptions of opium.

	Piculs.
Malwa	7,548
Patna	640
Benares	948
Persian	10
Total	9,146

THE figures for 1880 are :—

	Piculs.
Malwa	5,889
Patna	321
Benares	492
Persian	57
Total	6,759

Thus an increase of about 40 per cent. is shown. The increase in the imports of Malwa is accounted for by the exportation on the part of the Chinese of a rise in the import and *li kin* duties on the drug. The off-take and consumption of opium also exhibits an increase, though this increase is not quite proportionate. One of the merchants of Ningpo estimates the consumption at 7,342 chests in 1881, against 6,097 in 1880. Patna and Benares opium are principally consumed in the Chia Hsing (Kashing) district, which, although in this province, gets most of its opium from Shanghai; the *li kin* duty levied by the Kiangsu officials, in addition to the Chekiang dues being counterbalanced by the smaller expense incurred for freight, and the increased chances of smuggling the

goods past the *li-kin* stations. The opium dealers of the Chia Hsing district are under a promise to take fifty chests of Bengal opium a-month from Ningpo. The increase in the imports of Bengal opium leads us to infer that more of the drug is being sent up country in a legitimate manner, and that smuggling does not pay, or is being put down.

The *li-kin* taxes on opium in the Ningpo, Huchow, and Chia Hsing districts are farmed by a wealthy consumer for the sum of 150,000 taels per annum. The importer, foreign or Chinese, gives the *li-kin* office notice of the clearance of every chest of opium, and the name of the buyer, from whom the duty is collected before the drug is allowed to go up country. The rate is at present 31.79 taels on a chest of Malwa, and 34 taels on a chest of Bengal opium, the former being estimated to weigh 93½ catties, and the latter a little over a picul of 100 catties or 133½ lbs. avoirdupois. The opium farmer is said to have collected 190,000 taels in 1880, and 250,000 taels during 1881. He only pockets 28 per cent. of the surplus, the remainder going to the Governor of the province.

It will be seen from the above that the provisions of the IIrd Article of the 3rd section of the Chefoo Convention are already carried into effect at Ningpo, except that the foreign importer, having to pay the Tariff duty at once, loses the benefit of depositing the opium in bond, and that there is no area exempt from *li-kin*. The ratification of the Convention is therefore looked for with much anxiety, though it is expected that the duties on opium will be raised when it is ratified. But what most excites the minds of the native dealers is the projected scheme of a Chinese Syndicate to be established in Hong Kong to buy up all the opium on its arrival from India, and to distribute it thence at their own price, and to have a full command and monopoly of the opium trade all over the Empire. This Syndicate, if established, would only be an exclusion of the powerful Guild system, which at Ningpo, as elsewhere in China, robs the foreign importer of his trade and profits. The opium Guild at this port consists of natives of Chekiang and Fuhkien. The Guild merchants completely control the trade. At present they are on good terms with the foreign merchants, which means that the latter, being obedient to their behests, are allowed to sell the drug to customers of whom the Guild are pleased to approve; but if a foreign merchant were to venture to withhold the name of his customer, or to sell his opium to any one against whom the Guild had a grudge, he would be promptly tabooed, and not a man in Ningpo would dare to buy a ball of opium from him. I see no hope of a better state of things. The large Indian houses are content to do business on these terms, and the smaller merchants and commission agents are not strong enough to fight the battle. At the same time, it is only fair to say that when any member of the guild is in difficulties, the others come to his assistance, and thus the foreign merchant seldom makes a bad debt. The Chinese authorities are, of course, delighted with a system by which their revenue is secured on tolerably easy terms, without the incessant smuggling, and its consequent disputes, lawsuits, fighting, and bloodshed, that a free and open trade in opium gives rise to, as we see at Canton, Foochow, and elsewhere. The ratification of the Chefoo Convention ought to give foreigners a certain amount of relief, as the Customs authorities would assuredly never keep the Guild informed of the names of the seller and buyer of each chest of opium, and thus the power of taboo would be to a great extent checked.

During the year 1881 neither the provincial nor the local authorities have taken any measures interfering with the opium trade or the cultivation of the poppy. I think that every one has been waiting to see what result the conferences of their Excellencies, the two Superintendents of Trade, with Her Majesty's Envoy will lead to.

Although the area of land devoted to the cultivation of the poppy has increased, yet the crop for this last year has been below the average. It is estimated at something over 4,000 piculs. The manufacture of the native drug must certainly have a tendency to check the rate of increase in the importation of Indian opium, and I venture to predict that this tendency will be more marked in a year when the present exceptional reasons for such large imports do not exist. Szechuen opium, too, must be taken as a factor in estimating the total amount consumed in this district. The Customs statistics only give 65 piculs as the total import, but there is good reason to believe that many times this quantity are imported by junk, a large proportion being smuggled.

During the first three months of the year the demand for Malwa was steady and prices high, viz., 536 taels to 545 taels per picul. In May the price went down to 488 taels, but rose gradually till November, when it was 520 taels. The price of Bengal opium ranged from 435 taels to 455 taels in January, February, and March. In May it went down to 418 taels, but rose to 448 taels in the latter half of the year. The only quotations which I have for Persian opium are, one chest of medium 410 taels, and one of good quality 488 taels.

Cotton and Woollen Piece-goods.—The total number of pieces of cottons imported in 1881 was 645,587, against 536,729 imported in 1880, and 16,616 pieces of woollens, against 15,503. I append a comparative statement showing the quantities of each description of goods imported in these two years:—

						1880.	1881.
Cotton goods—							
Shirtings—							
Grey ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..		297,330	331,869
White ..	..	..	..	" ..		29,999	35,031
Dyed ..	..	..	..	" ..		7,652	51,936
Brocades ..	..	..	..	" ..		900	1,150
T-cloths ..	..	..	..	" ..		133,215	140,750
Drills—							
English ..	..	..	..	" ..		8,200	9,624
American ..	..	..	..	" ..		7,115	7,720
Jeans—							
English ..	..	..	..	" ..		23,120	26,770
American ..	..	..	..	" ..		2,190	2,090
Dutch ..	..	..	..	" ..		3,210	960
Sheetings—							
English ..	..	..	..	" ..		390	490
American ..	..	..	..	" ..		2,445	3,111
Chintzes ..	..	..	..	" ..		5,710	7,234
Turkey reds ..	..	..	..	" ..		3,698	6,389
Velvets ..	..	..	..	" ..		1,963	1,790
Velveteens ..	..	..	..	" ..		180	238
Dimities ..	..	..	..	" ..		..	430
Muslins ..	..	..	..	" ..		300	1,130
Canvas ..	..	..	..	" ..		63	129
Handkerchiefs ..	..	..	..	Dozens ..		5,450	6,923
Cottonades ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..		470	290
Woollen goods—							
Camlets—							
English ..	..	..	..	" ..		1,910	1,991
Dutch ..	..	..	..	" ..		60	50
Lastings ..	..	..	..	" ..		1,170	1,182
Ditto, imitation ..	..	..	..	" ..		1,530	1,440
Long ells ..	..	..	..	" ..		720	720
Spanish stripes ..	..	..	..	" ..		2,052	2,043
Lustres ..	..	..	..	" ..		6,042	5,545

					1880.	1881.
Woollen goods—						
Cloth—						
Medium ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..	927	911
Union ..	..	..	..	" ..	..	259
Italian ..	..	..	..	" ..	460	1,172
Woollens unclassified ..	..	..	..	" ..	10	53

It will be seen from the above that cotton goods, almost without exception, show a favourable increase, though the smaller and less important trade in woollens is almost stationary. It was thought a few years ago that the American fabrics, being stouter and less sized, would supplant English cottons. The above Table does not seem to verify this idea. Prices have on the whole been low. Grey shirtings of inferior quality averaged during the year 1 dol. 80 c. to 1 dol. 85 c. per piece. Heavier qualities fetched about 3 dol. 10 c. per piece. The highest prices were realized in the first half of the year. In September and October the price was as low as 1 dol. 35 c. Common T-cloths were sold at 1 dol. 5 c. to 1 dol. 15 c. Cloths of 8 to 8½ lbs. at 1 dol. 85 c. to 1 dol. 90 c.; and best qualities at 2 dols. 10 c. to 2 dol. 35 c., the last named being the highest price in October. At the beginning of 1881 stocks of cotton goods were not heavy, and stocks of woollens very small. When the year closed there was a stock of cottons enough for three months' consumption still in hand, but the stock of woollens had fallen low.

The trade in piece goods amounting annually to over 1,000,000 taels or nearly 300,000*l.*, shirting ought to bring in a handsome commission to the foreign importer, but unfortunately foreigners have been completely shouldered out of the trade by the Piece Goods Guild and the *Li-kin* Office. The Piece Goods Guild owes its power very much to the malpractices of foreigners in days gone by. At one time the foreign commission agent would have goods sent to him for sale in Ningpo, which he would either sell on the spot or send up country to be sold at one of the inland marts, under the transit passes issued in accordance with the Regulations of the Treaty of Tein-tsin. The goods thus escaped native inland taxation. The Chinese dealers, seeing the advantage granted to foreigners, came forward offering to pay the foreigner a small sum if he would take out transit passes in his own name on goods belonging to them. Some were suspected by this easy method of making money, and the Chinese dealers thereupon, instead of buying their goods at Ningpo, imported them from Shanghai, just paying a foreigner so much to pass them through the Custom-house. Afterwards it was decided that the ownership of the goods was unimportant, the foreign origin of the goods being the sole thing to be considered. This threw more power into the hands of the Guild, who now completely control the trade. The Piece Goods Guild is not in the habit of tabooing foreign firms, or, in fact, of committing any illegal practices whatever. They are so strong that such proceedings are unnecessary. The fact simply remains that every foreigner who has imported a single bale has found it unsaleable, except to a member of the Guild at the Guild's own price. No one else comes forward to bid, and any customer to whom the merchant may offer it declines to buy. The great strength of the Guild lies in its arrangement with the *Li-kin* Office. The Guild pays the *Li-kin* Office (I quote from a Report by Mr. Commissioner Drew), monthly the sum of 1,000 strings of cash, or 585 taels, as a commutation for all import *li-kin* on cottons and 125 taels as commutation on woollens. *Li-kin* is levied whether the goods go into consumption at Ningpo, or are sent inland. There is another duty

levied in the interior called the "Lo Ti Chüan," which has also been commuted by the Guild by the payment of 614 taels a-month on woollens and cottons alike. The Guild recoups itself for these payments by levying an assessment of so many cash on each piece of cloth imported. The amount is about 70 cash on a piece of grey shirting. The Guild knows the name of every importer and the amount which he imports, so that there can be no evasion. We see from this the difficulties that beset a foreigner who would venture to compete with a Chinese merchant. The latter having once taken out a transit pass, and settled with the Guild, can send his goods all over the province without let or hindrance. The foreigner may resist or pay the *li-kin* duty in Ningpo, may take out a transit pass covering the goods to some inland market; but when once the goods were disposed of there to some native buyer, the latter, not being under the protection of the Guild, would be mulcted of the "Lo Ti Chüan" duty, which would act as a salutary warning to him not to deal with foreigners again. Besides this, each member of the Guild at Ningpo has an agent at Shanghae, a member of the Piece Goods Guild there, to keep watch and see whether any outsider from Ningpo tries to buy on the Shanghae market without the knowledge of his fellow townsmen.

There are only two redeeming features in this aspect of affairs. One is that the existence of the Guilds doubtless stimulates the trade to the benefit of the Lancashire and Massachusetts manufacturer. The other is that in any case the proximity of Shanghae would induce the majority of purchasers to buy there rather than in Ningpo. A steamer leaves each end of the line at 4 P.M., arriving at the other end the following morning at daylight. This enables the Ningpo merchant to run up to Shanghae, take his pick out of perhaps 100 samples, and be back again at his business the following day. The same story comes from the river ports, and from Chefoo and Tien-tsin. The native merchants will not buy from foreigners at the outports. The larger market of Shanghae, with its chance of picking up a bargain at the auction sales there, is more attractive.

Metals.—The various kinds of metal all show a satisfactory increase in their imports during the three last years, as will be seen from the following Table:—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Iron, nail, rod, bar, &c.	..	..	..	37,331	29,486	43,493
Lead	..	..	..	9,107	9,520	9,649
Tin	..	..	..	13,839	15,052	21,089
Steel	..	..	..	2,401	2,108	2,803

It will be seen from this that tin is the most important metal in Ningpo taking value as the first of importance, as the value of the tin imported in 1881 amounted to about 475,000 taels, that of the iron being about 120,000 taels, and lead 48,000 taels. Lead is, of course, mainly used for the lining of tea-chests. About half the quantity of metals imported is sent up country under transit passes, there being no interference with the trade of foreigners in metals.

Miscellaneous.—A few other articles of import call for a short notice. The imports of foreign sugar compared to native are in quantity as 12 to 10; but the total amounts have fallen off considerably during the last few years, the figures for 1879, 1880, and 1881, being respectively 40,283 piculs, 16,310 piculs, and 15,596 piculs.

Mangrove bark is imported in large quantities from the Straits Settlements. It is used for the tanning of sails and fish-nets by the natives of

the sea-board. The other articles of Straits produce in demand are pepper, of which 1,000 piculs were imported; sandal, ebony, and sapan wood; edibles, such as bêche de mer and birds'-nests; betel-nuts, and indigo. Of the last named nearly 7,000 piculs were imported during 1881. Japan sends ginseng, dried prawns, and edible seaweed, the last being the only important item. The amount imported in the year under review, was 7,872 piculs against 6,848 piculs in 1880.

The taste for European luxuries and commodities increases as these things become better known. I append a Table showing the comparative amounts of some of these imported in the last three years:—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Matches .	..	..	Gross ..	105,097	119,402	121,370
Needles ..	..	..	Mille ..	..	..	1,450
Window glass	..	..	Boxes ..	2,401	2,830	2,753
Kerosine oil	..	..	Gallons ..	774,128	871,820	756,191

In matches Japan is coming forward to compete with England, Germany, and Sweden.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

The native imports of 1881 may be dismissed with a very few remarks, as they are of little interest to foreigners, except as articles to be carried in foreign bottoms. Medicines, estimated at 388,343 taels, form by far the most valuable item. I am informed that Hankow is the place whence the largest quantity comes. From the southern ports have been brought tobacco to the value of 154,000 taels; sugar worth 78,000 taels; lungn-gans and lungnan pulp, worth 116,000 taels: indigo and other sundries. The river ports send in addition to medicine, lily flowers for the scenting of tea, paper, wood oil, worth 88,000 taels; white wax, safflower, and vegetable tallow, to say nothing of the Szechuen opium, which reaches us viâ Hankow and the Yangtze. The imports from the northern ports are confined to 42,101 piculs of bean-cake, worth 39,000 taels, and some Shantung Pongee silks. Formosa sent some Kelung coal and camphor. With the exception of some of the coal, I believe that every pound of native imports was in the hands of Chinese merchants.

EXPORTS.

Green tea forms the principal article of export from Ningpo. The figures for the three last years are:—

							Piculs.
1879	..	..	..	..	..	..	127,821
1880	..	..	..	..	..	..	147,651
1881	..	..	..	..	..	..	160,971

The inference from the above is that prices during the years under review have been profitable to the producer, and the crop an unusually large one. Ningpo is the principal outlet for the teas of the Fychow (Huai-chow) district, which lies in An-Huei, and the only outlet for those of the Pingsuey (Ping Shui) district in the Chekiang Province. The total amount for the year is thus divided:—

							Piculs.
Fychow	..	..	.	..	..	..	90,449
Pingsuey	..	..	..	..	..	..	70,347
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	..	..	175
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	160,971

A great deal of the Fychow tea finds its way to a foreign market by way of the river ports, and the Treaty port of Wenchow is now, of course, the place of shipment for Winchow teas. None of the tea comes into foreign hands until it reaches Shanghai. It would, therefore, only lead to error if I were to give the prices during the year. I had better request a reference to the Reports of Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai. Nearly all the green tea exported from Ningpo is intended for the American market, which is rather a comfort to English residents here, for the process of preparing the tea is so unsavoury, that any one who has witnessed it has no desire to drink the infusion ever after. The leaf comes down from the country only sun dried. It is taken to the various tea-firing establishments, and is there fired and coloured with Prussian blue and gypsum by coolies, who not being burdened with much clothing, become at the end of the days' work the colour of colliers. They may be seen any summer evening washing the dirt off in the stagnant canals and ditches which adjoin the tea warehouses. The tea is sorted and made up into the various grades by which green tea is distinguished. The crop of 1881 was divided as follows:—

						Piculs.
Young Hyson	..	..	..	..	..	32,198
Hyson	..	..	..	..	..	25,502
Hyson skin	..	..	..	..	..	15
Twankey	..	..	..	..	..	335
Imperial	..	..	..	..	..	14,355
Gunpowder	..	..	..	..	..	88,566
Total	..	..	..	..	..	160,970

The amount of black congou imported in 1881 was only 684 piculs against 4,017 piculs in 1880, and the amount of leaf tea was 1,062 piculs against 1,164 piculs.

The export of raw silk is not as large as we might expect, considering that part of the Chekiang province produces the finest silk in the world. But the fact is that the great silk-producing districts lie in the north of the provinces whence communication with Shanghai, the direct port of shipment for Europe and America, is easier than it is with Ningpo. The export for 1881 only amounted to 217 piculs, which would be thought at Shanghai a small amount for one mail steamer to carry. Silk piece goods to the amount of 87 piculs, valued at 55,536 taels, were also exported. Under this head I may mention that Ningpo is famous for its silk embroideries. Many articles are very tasteful, and would probably suit European markets.

The trade in hats made from the rushes grown in the marshes of this district, is a considerable and annually increasing one. During the three last years the following numbers were exported:—

						Pieces.
1879	..	..	..	..	..	4,053,862
1880	..	..	..	..	..	6,653,980
1881	..	..	..	..	..	7,661,324

These hats, which can be bought in Europe for little more than a penny a-piece, have been for some time in use among the peasants on the Continent, and latterly there has been a considerable demand for them in America.

The rush is also largely manufactured into mats, of which 1,137,110 pieces were exported during 1881, but I doubt whether any of these left China.

Our other articles of export are almost entirely intended for native consumption in other parts of China.

Cotton shows a falling off from 31,111 piculs exported in 1880 to 9,357 piculs exported in 1881. This is accounted for by the damage occasioned to the crops by the storms of wind and rain in July, just as the pods were ripe and the cotton ready for picking. The good cotton harvest in the Hupei Province, had also a depressing effect on the export of cotton from Ningpo. Cotton is one of the most important crops in this part of China. The area devoted to it is perhaps second only to the area occupied by the rice crops, but the cotton is mainly consumed in the districts where it grows, the cloth made from it competing with the coarser kinds of Manchester grey goods. As far as I can judge, the quality of the raw cotton is not first class, the fibre being very short.

The cuttle-fish fishery is one of the busiest industries of this district. The spring is the fishing season, when I am told the waters among the Chusan Archipelago are full of immense shoals of the fish. Most of the cuttle-fish are sent to the river ports. They are preserved in ice, of which great quantities are collected during the winter months, and stored in ice houses on the banks of the Yung River.

Samsu, or native wine, calls for a short remark. The wine made from rice at Shaohsing within this circuit, is, *par excellence*, the wine of China, just as the wine of Xeres is the wine of Spain, and the wine of Oporto that of Portugal. 13,161 piculs were exported in 1881 against 9,145 piculs in 1880. Canton is the great market for it. A good-sized American barque was chartered about four months ago to carry a complete cargo thither. Even the best Shaohsing wine is wonderfully cheap, certainly less than 2s. a gallon. It is weak, but by no means unpalatable. It is not unlike sherry and water, with a slight flavour of almonds.

The export of medicines, principally vegetable products, amounted during the year 1881 to 40,319 piculs, valued at 273,231 taels. I hope to have an opportunity of collecting many of these, and submitting them to the Director of Kew Gardens. The best descriptions of the various kinds exported from here are to be found in Mr. Commissioner Bowra's Report for 1869, and Mr. Commissioner Moorhead's Report for 1880.

SHIPPING.

Five-sixths of the trade of Ningpo is carried on in the daily steamers running between this and Shanghai. The "China Merchants' Company" (Chinese), and the "China Navigation Company" (British), send each a steamer on alternate days, omitting Sundays, the first named running a steamer of over 1,000 tons, and the latter one of 600 tons. The Chinese passenger traffic is, perhaps, of even more importance than the freight, as an average of 400 passengers is carried on each trip of the steamer, and, on some occasions, as many as 1,000 passengers or more. 67,140 passengers arrived, and 73,057 departed, in 1881. The fare to or from Shanghai is 1 dollar.

The "China Merchants' Company" have also a small steamer running between Shanghai and Wenchow, which calls at Ningpo on her way up and down. Besides this, an English or German steamer calls once a month on her voyage from Hong Kong to Shanghai. Small sailing coasting-vessels visit us from time to time with mangrove bark from the Straits Settlements, sugar from the southern ports, and coal from Formosa. Then a great deal of freight is carried by lorchas running between Ningpo, Shanghai, and the river ports. These vessels being under 150 tons register, are only charged tonnage dues at the rate of 1 mace (the tenth part of a tael), instead of 4 mace per ton. I have no moral doubt that most of these are Chinese owned, and fly a foreign flag to evade payment of native dues. These lorchas bring all the kerosine oil and matches im-

ported into Ningpo, the steamers declining such cargo as dangerous. They also carry quantities of the heavier and less valuable goods, such as coal, iron, gypsum, and the like, in which delay is not of much importance.

Freight by steamer to or from Shanghai is 2 dollars per ton of 40 cubic feet on measurement cargo. On dead weight the rate varies from 1 dol. 60 c. to 3 dol. 20 c. per ton of 20 cwt. Opium is charged 2 dollars a chest, and piece goods 75 cents per bale. Lorchas charge about 5 cents a picul, equal 80 cents a ton. Freight between Ningpo and Hong Kong is 6 dollars a ton. There is no through rate between Europe or America and Ningpo.

There has been a report prevailing during the year that a third line of steamers was about to run between Ningpo and Shanghai, but as yet this prediction has not been fulfilled.

In Table (C) attached to this Report I have given a Return of British and foreign Shipping. The tonnage of the latter is thus divided:—

						Tons.
Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	431,309
American	..	..	..	..	..	6,920
German	..	..	..	..	..	7,102
French	..	..	..	..	..	452
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	710
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	2,856
Total	..	..	..	..	..	449,349

Storms were unusually prevalent last year and consequently several casualties occurred. The British barque "Aberdonian" was lost with nearly all hands near Pootoo; the American schooner "Annie S. Hale" was wrecked near the Hei-shan Islands; the British barque "Crunca" was dismantled in the Kintang Channel; and the Danish schooner "Nadeshda" was brought in disabled from the Blackwall passage. In all these instances, as I have already reported, the Chinese authorities rendered kind and willing help.

The masters of the steamers plying to this port complain frequently of the junks blocking up the fair way at Chin-hai at the mouth of the river. Several collisions have occurred there, fortunately all without loss of life or much material damage on either side. This Consulate has not had a single maritime case to settle during the year, nor has a Naval Court been held during the same period.

The lights, buoys, and beacons of this district are in good order, and are quite effective. Lighthouses are to be built for the first time on Steep Island and Bonham Island. Though these places are within the control of the Ningpo Customs authorities, the establishment of lights there will affect the Shanghai shipping trade more than that of Ningpo, as the direct route from Hong Kong to Shanghai passes by these two islands. Consequently the new lighthouses will be an immense boon to the numerous vessels on that track.

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

The duties paid in 1881 were the following:—

					H. Taels	m.	c.	c.
Import	..	..	..	..	267,519	7	5	6
Export	..	..	..	..	450,886	7	3	2
Coast trade	..	..	..	..	27,735	1	9	6
Tonnage	..	..	..	..	3,424	3	4	6
Transit	..	..	..	..	15,074	7	1	8
Total	..	..	..	..	764,640	7	4	8

The total for 1880 was 677,399 t. 4 m. 4 c. 2 c., and for 1879, 657,215 t. 8 m. 1 c. 2 c. The Customs officials estimate they received revenue during 1881 from the various nationalities in the following proportion :—

						Per cent.
British	..	..	..	..	..	37·46
American	..	..	..	..	..	1·80
German	..	..	..	..	..	0·98
French	..	..	..	..	..	0·06
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	0·05
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	0·45
Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	59·20

The item of transit dues is the only one that calls for an extended notice. Shao Hsing, Ch'u Chou, and Ch'ü Chou in this* province, and Hwei Chou in the An Hwei Province are the principal towns supplied with foreign goods from Ningpo. They take cotton and woollen piece goods sent up country, as I mentioned before, solely by the Piece Goods Guild, and metals, kerosine oil, coal, sugar, seaweed, and sundries sent up by foreign and Chinese dealers alike, under a system which I would fain hope was peculiar to Ningpo alone. The goods which go up country are, in violation of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, subject to the *li-kin* dues at Ningpo, as well as to the transit dues levied by the custom-house. I have no hesitation in saying that a large proportion of the transit passes taken out by foreigners are to cover goods, which have never been in those foreigners possession. The inducement which Chinese have to buy transit passes from foreigners rather than to take them out themselves is this. The *li-kin* authorities make a return of 60 per cent. on all *li-kin* dues paid by foreigners, so that it is profitable for the Chinese merchants to hire a foreigner to take out transit and *li-kin* passes in his own name on their account. The result is that foreign goods of all description (except opium) have to bear imposts which it was never intended they should bear when the Treaty of Tien-tsin was signed. If the Consul should apply for redress, he would find himself silenced by this retort from the Chinese authorities: "You cannot show us an instance in which a British merchant has sent goods, *bonâ fide* his own property, into the interior, and has been charged the *li-kin* on them." I think that if the experiment were tried of a shipment of goods up country, covered by transit pass only, the *Li-kin* Office being utterly ignored, the goods would probably be detained at the first barrier until inquiries had been made, after which they would probably go to their destination without further interference.

The transit dues for 1881 have been paid by the various nationalities in this proportion :—

						Per cent.
British	..	..	..	..	..	7·41
American	..	..	..	..	..	17·50
German	..	..	..	..	..	0·08
Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	75·01

Silk is the only article which comes down to Ningpo under outward transit pass. I am informed that the *li-kin* duty on tea is absolutely less than the transit duty.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1881 has been uneventful. Trade has been unusually prosperous, and the harvest on the whole satisfactory. The health of the foreign community has been good, and no litigation either among

foreigners or with the Chinese has troubled us. The Chinese population in this Prefecture have been quiet, but in the Prefecture of T'aichou within this circuit, there has been a small revolt, which is still unquelled. The leader of it, Huang Chin-man, used to be a guide for travellers in that part of the Chekiang Province. He has succeeded in collecting a band composed principally of fishermen, and with their assistance he has managed to keep up a running fight for the last six months. He caught the Commander of one of the Chinese gun-boats in an ambush and cut his head off. He is now supposed to be hiding among the hill fastnesses, where the peasants, who look upon him as a popular hero of the Robin Hood type, keep him informed of all the movements of his opponents.

There have been several changes among the *personnel* of the officials, both native and foreign. The most important change has been that of the Governor of the Province. His Excellency Tan Chung Nu has been appointed Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh, and has been succeeded by Ch'en Shih Chieh, lately Provincial Treasurer of Fukkein. Mr. Cooper gave over charge of this Consulate to me in June last; and in September Dr. E. C. Lord, who has been in charge of the United States' Consulate for some years past, was succeeded by Mr. Edwin Stevens, of Philadelphia.

My intercourse with the Chinese authorities, the Custom-house, and my colleagues, has been all that I could desire. The present Intendant or T'aitai of Ningpo is a Manchu, and every one who knows him will bear me out in testifying to his courtesy and kindness in all matters affecting foreigners.

In the month of December part of the Detached Squadron, with their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert Victor and Prince George visited Ningpo, and were courteously treated by the Chinese officials.

I have little to add to my former remarks bearing on the future commercial prosperity of Ningpo. I think that Ningpo will always form an important market for foreign goods, but until a firm determination has been shown to put down the monopolies of the Guilds, no foreign importer can make any profit. After this, if a stop were put to the practices of the dealer, who does not scruple to declare himself to be the owner of goods which he never even saw, then the legitimate importer would have a chance of selling his goods free of *li-kin*, and of sending them up country under no further restriction than that of the transit pass.

I fear that the prospects for the exporter from Ningpo are not much brighter than those of the importer. If the foreign firms would get up a competition among themselves, they would doubtless persuade the teamen to sell them the tea, but at present the latter say, with perfect truth: "It is not worth our while to open our chests to show you the tea which you may possibly refuse to buy after all. We prefer to ship it to Shanghai, where we can easily find a dozen buyers."

The silk trade of Ningpo is but insignificant, nor do I know of any other natural product or manufacture which would be likely to find a market in Europe, except such unimportant articles as the Ningpo inlaid furniture and carvings, which are often very handsome, and the silk embroideries, to which I have called attention above. The country round Ningpo is well wooded, and it is not impossible that a market may be found for some descriptions of the timber. Box-wood, though not much used as an article of commerce, is reasonably plentiful, especially in gardens, where it is planted as an ornamental tree. It grows to a height of about 12 or 14 feet, but probably if the Chinese knew that there was a demand for it, they would cultivate larger growths. I hope to send some specimens of Ningpo box and other woods to Kew Gardens.

Foreign science, with the exception of gunnery, as exemplified in the

armament of the forts at the mouth of the river, has not made much impression on Ningpo. The submarine cable and the land lines have both alike left us on one side, though there is little doubt that in a year or so we shall have telegraphic communication with Loochow and Shanghai. A short telegraphic line has been set up on the foreign Settlement for police purposes, and a few months ago the Intendant gave orders that this line should be extended to his own office, and that a telephone should be constructed by which he might communicate with the other officials in the city. Unfortunately, the expense of these constructions deterred him at the last moment. Where foreign engineering skill is most required is in the improvement of the canals. A network of these surrounds the city on all sides, and even where there is river communication, artificial canals in many places run parallel to the rivers, giving boatmen the choice of two water-ways. The canals are on a higher level than the river, and boats, in order to pass from the river into the canal, have to be hauled up mud-covered slopes in places as much as 15 feet high. Windlasses of the roughest description, turned by manual power, and wasting an immense amount of force in useless friction, are the means employed in this neighbourhood to drag boats over these "haul overs." Near Hang-chow I am told that water buffaloes take the place of windlasses. Locks, after the European fashion, would save an endless amount of time, expense, and wear and tear of boats.

The only native engineering work of any value which I have noticed in this vicinity is a stone causeway built across the entrance of a valley 20 miles from this, which turns all the waters of a good-sized stream into a canal, instead of allowing them to go to waste in the river.

I am indebted to Mr. Klimwächter, the Commissioner of Customs, for access to his Statistical Tables, and to several resident merchants for much of the information contained in this Report.

(Signed)

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, *Consul*.

(A).—RETURN of the Trade of the Port of Ningpo in Foreign Vessels for the Year 1881.

No. 1.—TOTAL Trade of the Port in Foreign Vessels (excluding Treasure).

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	2,510,391	12	9
Exports	..	..	..	..	1,315,839	15	6
Total	..	..	..	..	3,826,231	8	3

No. 2.—IMPORT and Export of Treasure.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To and from foreign ports .	Nil			Nil			Nil		
To and from native ports ..	406,746	1	9	731,903	8	3	1,138,649	10	0
Total ..	406,746	1	9	731,903	8	3	1,138,649	10	0

No. 3.—DIRECT Trade with Foreign Countries (excluding Treasure).*

						£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	..	91,616	9	6
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	4,600	11	6
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	96,217	1	0

* With Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, and Siam only.

No. 4.—Trade with other Treaty Ports (excluding Treasure).

						£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	..	2,418,775	3	3
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	1,311,239	4	0
Total	..	..	..	..	..	3,730,014	7	3

No. 5.—RETURN distinguishing the respective Amounts of Foreign and Native Trade in Foreign Vessels with other Treaty Ports, without distinction of Flag, forming the Totals of No. 4.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Foreign	1,923,284	14	6	..	1,923,284	14	6
Native	495,490	8	9	1,311,239	1,806,729	12	9
Total	2,418,775	3	3	1,311,239	3,730,014	7	3

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, *Consul*.

(B).—RETURN of British Trade for the Year 1881 at the Port of Ningpo.

No. 1.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure)* under any Flag.

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	91,616	9	6
Exports	..	..	..	..	2,963	5	3
Total	..	..	..	..	94,579	14	9

* This Return should include the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 2.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure) under any Flag.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
British Isles	Nil	Nil	Nil
Hong Kong	87,362 12 6	165 0 6	87,527 13 0
India	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other British Dependencies	4,253 17 0	2,798 4 9	7,052 1 9
Total	91,616 9 6	2,963 5 3	94,579 14 9

No. 3.—RETURN of Trade under British Flag with other Treaty Ports.

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	1,032,835	19	9
Exports..	..	..	..	..	459,392	16	0
Total	..	..	..	..	1,492,228	15	9

[Customs' estimate.]

No. 4.—RETURN of Value of Imports of British, Indian, or Colonial origin (excluding Treasure) from other Treaty Ports, carried under any Flag.

					£	s.	d.
Value of imports	..	..	..	..	1,885,410	1	0

[Rough estimate.]

No. 5.—RETURN of Exports destined for Great Britain, India, or the Colonies, carried to other Treaty Ports under any Flag.

[No Return. Impossible to distinguish.]

No. 6.—RETURN of Import and Export of Treasure from and to Great Britain and British Dependencies.

[No Return.]

(Signed) CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, *Consul*.

(C.)—SHIPPING RETURN.

BRITISH.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
153	103,287	..	£ 1,032,836	155	103,740	..	£ 459,393	308	207,027	..	£ 1,492,229

FOREIGN.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
373	225,031	..	£ 1,477,555	367	224,318	..	£ 856,447	740	449,349	..	£ 2,334,002

Total British and Foreign Entered—
 Number of vessels .. 526
 Tonnage .. 328,318
 Number of crew
 Value of cargo.. .. £2,510,391

Total British and Foreign Cleared—
 Number of vessels .. 522
 Tonnage .. 328,058
 Number of crew
 Value of cargo £1,315,840

Total British and Foreign Entered and Cleared—
 Number of vessels .. 1,048
 Tonnage .. 656,376
 Number of crew
 Value of cargo £3,826,231

(Signed)

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, Consul.

PAKHOL.

Report on the Trade of Pakhoi in 1881.

IN 1881 the port of Pakhoi entered on the fifth year of its existence, and we might fairly expect to find in the statistics of its trade evidence on which to augur ill or well of its future. Opened to foreign commerce in April 1877, the immediate results as tabulated at the end of that year were meagre, the gross trade amounting only to a trifle over 4,000*l*. The following year was even more inauspicious, the business done being absolutely *nil*. In 1879 foreign steamers began visiting the port, and gave the first impetus to a trade which since then may be considered as being fairly under weigh, and which has, with certain reservations, continued to increase in a satisfactory ratio.

At the end of this Report will be found General Tables of imports and exports. Here I append a comparative statement of the gross values of the trade of Pakhoi since its opening,

Gross Values of the Trade of Pakhoi, 1877-81.

							£
1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,319
1878	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
1879	..	..	..	..	..	..	93,787
1880	..	..	..	..	..	..	496,640
1881	..	..	..	..	..	..	510,422

The figures for the last three years will, however, have more significance if the amount contributed by opium be considered apart, as set forth in the Table below:—

PROPORTION of Opium to other goods, 1879-81.

			1879.	1880.	1881.
			£	£	£
Opium	..	..	45,817	160,341	117,259
Other goods	..	..	47,970	336,299	393,163

From this it appears that though there was not in 1881 a repetition of the extraordinary upward leap of 1880, still there is recorded an increase of about 17 per cent. in the value of general goods exported and imported.

It must be understood that these figures refer solely to the goods which pay duty at the Imperial Maritime Customs, and it is from the Returns issued by that Office, obligingly placed at my disposition in advance of publication by the Commissioner, that the above and following statistics are taken. From more than one point of view, however, the port of Pakhoi has mercantile peculiarities which render the Customs Returns, though the only available data, no true criterion of the actual trade of the place, whether in foreign goods imported, or in native produce exported to foreign countries. The native shipping is celebrated for its seaworthiness and large carrying powers, and the native ship-owners form a coalition strong enough to compete with no mean success against the superior advantages of carriage by steamer. In 1877, the year in which Pakhoi was opened to foreign trade, Mr. McKean, the Commissioner of Customs, estimated the import and export in native junks to and from Macao at not less than

2,000,000 taels—say, 576,667*l.*—per annum. Though the increase in steamer traffic has doubtless considerably diminished, the annual total still, taking into account the natural growth of trade during the five years which have elapsed, and also the advantages which the provincial Customs officials see fit to grant for their own reasons to traders in native bottoms, I am inclined to the belief that the addition of 200,000*l.* to the gross value of the trade for 1881, mentioned in my first Table, would not result in overstating the case.

In the matter of opium alone there has been a falling-off of 43,082*l.*, or more than 25 per cent., in the value of the article as imported through the Foreign Customs. This diminution does not imply that the total importation is any the less, but merely that a larger proportion than before has found its way to the port in junks. The provincial Customs authorities have done all in their power to promote the carriage of opium in junks, and to discourage its importation in steamers, and with this end in view they have, during the past year, made large reductions in their Tariff of charges. Thus, opium imported from Macao pays duty at Ma-lau Chow, an island in the immediate neighbourhood of the Portuguese settlement. The tax leviable there has just been reduced by 12 taels per chest. In Pakhoi itself there are three native offices which claim dues from opium—the Native Customs, the *Li-kin* ("War-tax") Office, and the *Hai-fang* ("Coast Defence") Office. These three have simultaneously reduced their charges by 15 per cent. There is, therefore, a considerable saving to be effected by importers of opium in native craft over those who avail themselves of foreign steamers, and accordingly a continually increasing proportion of the total import is diverted from the Foreign Customs, and finds no place in their Returns. I have here only referred to opium, being the article of most individual importance, but I have no doubt that the tactics of the native revenue collectors would be found to extend to other imports as well. The adoption of such expedients, seemingly so opposed to the Imperial interests, may be explained by a statement of the peculiar position occupied by the Province of Kuangtung as regards the collection of Customs revenue. This function is farmed by the Emperor to a specially-deputed Superintendent, residing at Canton, known to foreigners as the *Hoppo*. He contracts to supply Peking with a certain sum per annum, and, as has always been the case with *fermiers généraux*, is left to collect pretty much as he pleases that amount and as much more as he conveniently can. The interest of the Central Government in his proceedings lapses with the payment of the sum specified. The foreign Commissioner of Customs is (like the native Customs authorities) a subordinate of the *Hoppo*, but whereas the revenue collected by the foreign official is strictly accounted for, and must be remitted to Peking in its entirety, the sums contributed by the *Hoppo's* native employés pass through Canton, and the integrity of the amount is less assured. It is therefore to the interest of the *Hoppo* and of his native subordinates that as much trade as practicable should flow their way, and as little as possible the way of the Imperial Customs. In this field local and Imperial interests are antagonistic, and if the latter suffer, who is to complain? We are here on the outskirts of the Empire, and it is a "far cry" to Peking. After all, the Central Government, perhaps, considers the loss scarcely important enough to warrant interference, and the principal loser is the foreign ship-owner, who does not gain his freight, or the foreign merchant whose business with the native trader, and consequent brokerage, are proportionately curtailed.

Foreign trade by foreign merchants is certainly at a disadvantage in Pakhoi. Only one firm has attempted to gain a footing here, and has had to struggle single-handed against the organized opposition of native traders backed by the above-mentioned tactics of native officials. Pakhoi came

into existence as an open port just at the time when native traders all over China were beginning to rival, with a certain amount of success, the foreign merchant on the ground which had long been peculiarly his own, and which he had probably come to consider his by prescriptive right. The China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steam fleet was established by this time on a firm and thriving basis, and was taking a large share in the coast trade, which had formerly been a foreign monopoly. Further extension of their operations to Singapore, and even London, was talked of, and lately found realization in the dispatch of the "Mei-foo" to the Thames, but with what real financial and permanent success the future has yet to show. In short, the Chinaman was thinking of taking his import and export trade into his own hands as far as possible.

A steady adherence to this policy has marked the course of events here. Foreign steamers, indeed, take a preponderant share in the carrying trade; but since November they have been, without exception, in Chinese hands. Up to that date one steamer trading to the port was consigned to the British firm, but by a ruse the local merchants induced the Hong Kong charterers to transfer the agency from the foreign house to native hands. And other causes, besides the "Boycotting" practices of the native traders, have conspired to reduce to a minimum the business of the foreign firm. During the past year the local farmers of the opium revenue devised new forms of impost on the drug, and attempted to enforce payment within the port area, going so far as to seize the article in the very hands of the foreign merchant's employes, and, further, setting a watch at the door of his house, to his own annoyance and the intimidation of his customers. As regards Pakhoi, no settlement determining the illegality of these proceedings has been arrived at, though the question has been referred to Peking; but I understand that in a similar case affecting a German firm in the neighbouring port of Kiungehow the action of the *Li-kin* Office has been condemned by the Central Government. In the meanwhile, the business of the foreign firm in opium here is practically suspended.

In another direction there has also been cause of complaint and of reference to Peking, and this in a matter more nearly affecting the extension of British trade and the future of Pakhoi.

A glance at the map of China will show that this port is most favourably situated for turning to profit the trading possibilities of the Province of Kuang-si. Possessing four routes in the direction of Nan-ning, and one towards Yü-lin, it is the natural channel through which to drain a vast tract of country, the inland waters of Kuang-si being very extensively available for navigation. I am assured that the people of that province are most eager for extended trade, especially in the way of cottons and cotton yarn, while, on their part, they are prepared to supply cassia lignea and cassia-leaf oil in return. The one desideratum to insure a large and mutually lucrative trade is that goods conveyed into the interior and from the interior by or for foreign merchants shall not be liable to vexatious and arbitrary taxation on the road, and this immunity was provided by Treaty. When, therefore, in August last the *Li-kin* officials in the Department of Yü-lin, Kuang-si, suddenly demanded local duties on goods duly protected by transit passes, and refused, when remonstrated with, to retreat from the position they had taken up, the transit trade with Kuang-si, which had given prospects of considerable development, received a check from which it will only recover when these obstructive officials have been brought to task and forced to pay due observance to their country's Treaties. In this transit pass question there is this curious anomaly, that whereas obstacles are placed in the way of trade between this port and Kuei-lin Fu, the capital of Kuang-si,

which is distant about 250 miles as the crow flies, transit trade is firmly established between Kuei-lin and Hankow, a distance of more than 400 miles. In grey shirtings alone over 32 000 pieces were sent under transit pass from the Yangtze port to the capital of Kuang-si in 1880. If the route from Pakhoi were open, and free from illegal restrictions, it is plain there would be a saving in carriage of not only the 150 miles inland journey, but of all the navigation to Shanghae, and thence up the river to Hankow.

This non-recognition of transit passes on the part of officials inland, except by the *ultima ratio* of compulsion, is no new phase; it has probably been, at some period or other, an event in the history of many of the open ports. One is almost tempted to the belief that our translators of the Tien-tsin Treaty must have used very obscure terms in wording the Chinese version of Article XXVIII, so systematically do native officials affect to misunderstand its provisions when first confronted with them. Still, as the epoch during which transit passes are unfamiliar and ignored has, sooner or later, passed in the case of other ports, there is reason to hope that Pakhoi will one day be favoured with a similar consummation; and when the current of trade flows freely the port will doubtless offer greater attractions to foreign merchants, and with a larger influx of these the native coalition will find the work of eliminating the European element a task beyond their strength.

Pakhoi has not yet, in point of fact, acquired the status of an independent port; it is, as it were, merely a branch of Hong Kong; it has no commercial relations of consequence with any other place; but what trade there is has, I believe, the potentiality of such further development as would eventually warrant a more direct communication with Great Britain and India. The latter country especially is strongly interested in the extension of trade in this direction, as it is for Indian opium, Indian cottons, and Indian cotton yarn that the greatest demand exists in Kuang-si; consequently, every day that the present obstruction to the transit trade continues means so much loss to the mercantile interests of our Eastern possession.

In conclusion, I append comparative Tables for the past three years of the chief items of import and export, of the Customs revenue, and of shipping. The amount of trade in 1877 was so trifling that it is of no comparative value, and in 1878 the business done was *nil*.

COMPARATIVE Table of the principal Imports, 1879-81.

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Shirtings, grey ..	..	Pieces	..	..	600	223
" white ..	..	"	..	..	360	346
T-cloths ..	..	"	..	3,725	73,496	79,990
Drills, American ..	..	"	..	..	..	95
" English ..	..	"	..	..	..	105
Cambrics and muslins ..	..	"	..	200	800	480
Broad cloth ..	..	"	..	..	2	88
Long ells ..	..	"	..	740	7,242	6,614
Cotton yarn ..	..	Cwt.	..	746	19,030	11,773
" raw ..	..	"	..	342	10,393	19,079
Iron, nail-rod ..	..	"	..	..	1,295	2,990
Steel ..	..	"	..	7	198	732
Matches ..	..	Gross	..	118	16,005	23,089
Needles ..	..	Mille	..	571	32,521	60,796
Flour ..	..	Cwt.	..	..	971	1,833

Shirtings, both grey and white, have steadily fallen off; there were 800 pieces of the grey and 360 of the white imported in 1877; cambrics and muslins also show a decrease as compared with the previous year, and there is a shortcoming in long ells and cotton yarn also. On the other hand, T-cloths, of which only 1,475 pieces appear in the Returns for 1877, have increased to nearly 80,000, and raw cotton is better by almost 90 per cent. There is a noticeable improvement under the head of needles and matches (of the Swedish "safety" kind now almost universal in China); the imports of iron and steel are also advancing in importance.

COMPARATIVE Table of principal Exports, 1879-81.

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Star aniseed ..	..	Cwt.	..	3,200	10,589	3,499
Oil of aniseed ..	..	..	..	458	138	777
Cassia lignea ..	..	..	..	3,349	18	2,083
.. leaf oil ..	..	..	..	44	877	695
Ground-nut cakes ..	..	..	..	..	45,988	80,720
Liquid indigo ..	..	..	..	781	32,446	52,635
Paper ..	..	..	..	247	5,132	3,997
Sugar, brown ..	..	..	..	..	2,073	2,432
.. white ..	..	..	..	70	7,844	9,028
Hides ..	..	..	..	..	1,091	4,919
Bags, straw ..	..	Pieces	..	..	13,432	82,980

Though a decrease will be observed in star aniseed, cassia-leaf oil, and paper, the general increase is satisfactory, and is most noticeable in the case of ground-nut cakes, indigo, and straw bags. The export of cassia lignea, which sank to a mere fraction in 1880, is showing signs of recovery, and there is a steady forward movement in sugar. As regards this article, I am assured that the musters brought to Pakhoi are of very fair quality, though from the rudeness of the refining apparatus employed, the sugar, when brought in bulk, is not always uniform in character, nor does it invariably correspond with the sample throughout. A quantity of this sugar has been sent to Hong Kong and tested at the Sugar Refinery, the result being highly satisfactory as to the quality of the article. It has been pronounced very suitable for brewery purposes, and as there is a large production in this neighbourhood and in the Leichow Peninsula, the trade in sugar might be extensively developed.

COMPARATIVE Table of Customs Revenue, 1879-81.

						£
1879 ..	..	..	..	..	..	5,813
1880 ..	..	..	..	..	..	23,954
1881 ..	..	..	..	..	..	23,035

The decrease in revenue for the last year is entirely attributable to the diminution in the amount of opium imported in foreign vessels; the decrease in respect to opium alone amounted to about 3,000*l.*, but was counterbalanced by the increased import of other goods.

COMPARATIVE Table of Shipping, 1879-81.

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No. of Trips.	Tonnage.	No. of Trips.	Tonnage.	No. of Trips.	Tonnage.
British	10	3,180	62	19,612	110	37,262
Foreign	14	3,934	120	49,152	80	36,814
Chinese (foreign built) ..	4	3,052	28	18,672	28	9,566

These vessels are all steamers; no sailing-ships have yet visited Pakhoi. There is a notable increase in the number and tonnage of British vessels as compared with 1880, partly ascribable to the circumstance that one of the foreign steamers was registered at Hong Kong as a British vessel in September, and added considerably to the total British tonnage by her subsequent trips.

G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, *Acting Consul.*

Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.

(Table 1).—IMPORTS (Foreign).

		Quantity.	Value.
Opium—			£
Malwa	Cwt. ..	1 ¹⁰ / ₁₆	10
Patna	" ..	25	2,547
Benares	" ..	1,188	114,702
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	223	101
" white	" ..	346	141
T-cloths	" ..	79,990	33,865
Drills, American	" ..	95	48
" English	" ..	105	53
Chintzes	" ..	280	96
Cambrics and muslins	" ..	480	742
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	1,521	373
Cotton yarn	Cwt. ..	11,773	64,941
Woollen goods—			
Blankets	Pairs ..	412	464
Cloth, broad and medium	Pieces ..	88	335
Long ells	" ..	6,614	11,057
Lustres	" ..	176	200
Lastings	" ..	215	565
Woollen goods, unclassified .. .. .	" ..	..	167
Metals—			
Iron, nail-rods	Cwt. ..	2,990	1,413
" old	" ..	224	53
Lead, in pigs	" ..	274	244
Quicksilver	" ..	3	40
Steel	" ..	732	608
Sundries—			
Clocks	Pieces ..	258	188
Cotton, raw Indian	Cwt. ..	19,079	50,834
Dye stuff	" ..	438	1,278
Betel-nuts	" ..	2,774	2,279
Bicho-de-mar	" ..	387	1,248
Medicines	" ..	132	203
Raisins	" ..	204	210
Seaweed	" ..	121	148
Silk and cotton mixture	" ..	20	485
Starch	" ..	377	182
Umbrellas, silk	Pieces ..	66	31
" cotton	" ..	1,185	173
" alpaca	" ..	2,592	394
Varnish	Cwt. ..	77	159
Flour	" ..	1,833	994
Ginseng, American, clarified	" ..	10	520
" Corcan and Japanese	" ..	1	149
Isinglass	" ..	107	331
Lamps	Pieces ..	1,551	294
Matches	Gross ..	23,089	2,008
Needles	Mille ..	60,796	2,548
Pepper	Cwt. ..	1,000	1,778
Rice, Annam	" ..	4,027	1,016
Sandal-wood	" ..	620	656
Miscellaneous, unclassified .. .. .	" ..	..	3,035
			303,386

(Signed) G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, Acting Consul.
Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.

(Table 2.)—IMPORTS (Native).

		Quantity.	Value.
			£
Almonds	Cwt. ..	46	185
Betel-nuts	" ..	2,220	3,547
Cotton, raw	" ..	4,204	12,611
Dates	" ..	1,529	1,180
Fungus	" ..	69	234
Ginseng	" ..	80	1,213
Hemp	" ..	193	277
Lily-flower, dried	" ..	1,493	2,012
Liquorice	" ..	232	245
Medicines	" ..	2,188	4,386
Nankeens	" ..	31	351
Persimmons	" ..	158	150
Sharks' fins	" ..	69	1,654
Silk piece-goods	" ..	2	302
Tobacco, prepared	" ..	176	710
Vermicelli	" ..	1,769	2,221
Vermilion	" ..	60	704
Wax, white	" ..	272	3,235
Sundries, unenumerated .. .. .	" ..	..	1,567
			37,184

(Signed) G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, *Acting Consul.**Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.*

(Table 3.)—NATIVE EXPORTS.

		Quantity.	Value.
			£
Aniseed, star	Cwt. ..	3,499	9,933
" broken	" ..	226	137
Bags, straw	Pieces ..	82,980	363
Cassia lignea	Cwt. ..	2,083	1,981
" refuse	" ..	48	79
" buds	" ..	12	20
Cuttle-fish	" ..	4,201	14,184
Fire crackers	" ..	285	378
Fish, dried	" ..	796	2,129
Glue, cow	" ..	1,255	1,515
Ground-nut cakes	" ..	80,720	18,277
Hides, buffalo and cow	" ..	4,919	8,567
Horns, ditto	" ..	848	1,046
Indigo, liquid	" ..	52,635	49,937
Leather	" ..	445	1,134
Medicines	" ..	862	2,362
Nutgalls	" ..	154	332
Oil, aniseed	" ..	777	28,280
" cassia-leaf	" ..	695	8,612
Paper, second quality	" ..	3,997	5,723
Prawns, dried	" ..	576	2,434
Sugar, brown	" ..	2,423	1,447
" white	" ..	9,028	8,543
Tallow, animal	" ..	905	1,236
Sundries, unenumerated .. .. .	" ..	..	1,025
			169,674

(Signed) G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, *Acting Consul.**Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.*

TAIWAN.

Report on the Trade of Taiwan for the Year 1881.

THE total value of the gross foreign trade in the Taiwan Consular district during the year 1881 was 1,181,343*l.*, as against 1,313,097*l.* in 1880

This shows a decrease of 131,754*l.* in the gross trade of the year I am about to pass under review.

This decrease is mainly to be accounted for by the partial failure of the sugar crop, as was predicted in my last year's Report; and although the trade is less in value than that of the preceding year, it is much higher than that of any of the previous years, and compares favourably with them. Thus, it appears that the prospects of the South Formosa ports are good, and that the business done in them is steadily increasing.

SHIPPING.

The tonnage of the foreign vessels employed in carrying on the trade of the port exceeded that of 1880 by 4,558 tons. This carrying trade was more largely shared by British vessels than in 1880.

German shipping also held its own, and shows a slight increase.

The tonnage of British vessels was 17,963 tons in excess of the preceding year; this excess was in the tonnage of steamers, which amounted to 21,126 tons more than in 1880, while there was a decrease in sailing vessels of 3,857 tons. German tonnage also shows an increase of 343 tons, eight German steamers having visited the port this year, while there was only one the preceding year.

American tonnage, on the other hand, shows a decrease of 10,730 tons.

The tonnage of the vessels of other nationalities remained stationary, but one French vessel, of 309 tons, visited the port; there were none of that nationality the preceding year.

One British steamer took a cargo of sugar direct to the United Kingdom, while two others went to Yokohama. Steamers for Shanghae called in regularly and frequently during the sugar season; and Messrs. Dircks and Co., a German firm, had a steamer running regularly between Taiwanfoo, Hong Kong, Swatow, and Amoy, during the second half of the year.

No steamers of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company visited this Consular district in 1881.

IMPORTS.

The net imports during the year 1881 amounted to 662,652*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*, showing an increase of 97,499*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* over the net imports of 1880.

This increase was made up as follows —

			Taels.	£	s.	d.
Opium, increase of ..	..	..	88,160	=	25,346	0 0
Metals ..	..	..	365		104	18 9
Sundries ..	..	..	3,223		926	12 3
Native imports, increase of ..	..	..	302,700		87,026	5 0
Total ..	..	..	394,448		113,403	16 0

There was a decrease in—

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Cotton goods of	..	..	..	40,710	=	11,704	2 6
Woollen	..	..	..	14,609		4,200	1 9
Total	..	..	..	55,319		15,904	4 3

leaving a net increase of 339,129 taels, or 97,499*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*, in the imports of 1881.

The increase in the import of opium during the past year was chiefly made up in Persian and Turkey opium, there being 273 chests more of the former, and 232 more of the latter, imported than in the previous year. There were also 25 more chests of Patna imported.

No Malwa was imported during 1881, and the decrease in Benares was 416 chests.

I cannot learn that any native opium was imported in 1881.

Some 304 piculs of sesamum-seed cake, valued at 4,734 taels, or 1,361*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, were imported in 1881. This article was extensively used in the adulteration of opium, 13 lbs. of sesamum-seed cake being added to every picul (133½ lbs.) of opium, which was then palmed off as pure opium. Owing chiefly to the light colour of Persian opium, the sesamum-seed was more readily mixed with that, than with other kinds.

The cost of this sesamum-seed cake, with all charges paid, was about 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb., whereas the cost of the Persian opium was 18*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

The increase in the import of sundries was chiefly in such articles as bêche-de-mer, lamps, kerosine, and matches.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

These show the greatest increase in the import trade, and this increase does not appear to have been confined to any particular article, but to have been very general. Rice was most largely imported in the autumn, to make good the failure of South Formosa crops, which were destroyed by gales and typhoons.

The great decrease in cotton and woollen goods is mainly due to the short sugar crop; for in those years that the export of sugar was large there was a correspondingly large trade done in these articles.

EXPORTS.

The net exports during 1881 amounted to 504,193*l.* 7*s.*, showing a decrease of 232,116*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* as compared with 1880.

This decrease was made up as follows:—

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Brown sugar	..	..	..	638,276	=	183,504	7 0
White "	..	..	..	165,452		47,567	9 0
Lunggans	..	..	..	14,803		4,255	17 3
Sundries..	..	..	..	15,155		4,357	1 3
Total	..	..	..	833,686		239,684	14 6

There was, however, an increase in—

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Turmeric of	..	..	..	16,191	=	4,654	18 3
Hemp	..	..	..	10,133		2,913	4 9
Total	..	..	..	26,324		7,568	3 0

thus leaving a net decrease during the year of 807,362 taels, or 232,116*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*

Although the export of brown sugar was some 16,609 tons less than in 1880, yet it is the largest export as compared with other years, except that of 1876; and there is little doubt but that it will still go on increasing, much more land being yearly cleared, and cultivated with the cane. The short crop in 1881, and, I am afraid, the still smaller crop that there will be this year, is solely due to climatic influences.

The chief markets for the Takow sugar are Japan, London, and Australia; the Taiwanfoo sugar going chiefly to the northern ports of China. The export to London last year amounted to 4,162 tons, as against 9,038 tons of the preceding year.

This sugar is at present of a very low quality, being almost the very lowest class. It will doubtless become a better quality, and will fetch a higher price, when more care and more scientific methods are used to express the juice from the cane. In England it is used chiefly in breweries, in the manufacture of patent food for cattle, and for mixing with other sugars.

The export of white sugar was 1,809 tons less than the preceding year.

RE-EXPORTS.

There was an increase of 4,978 taels, or 1,431*l*. 3*s*. 6*d*., in the value of re-exports as compared with last year.

This increase was in opium, chiefly Persian of a low quality, which was found to be unsaleable.

Woollen goods also participated to some extent in this increase.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The great decrease in the trade of the Southern Formosa ports, for 1881, was in its great staple, sugar. This was due to the severe typhoons in the autumn of 1880, which greatly damaged the crops. I do not think that this decrease is likely to be a permanent one, for large tracts of land are being continually cleared, and brought under sugar cultivation.

The increase in the import trade, although considerable, did not affect articles of British growth or manufacture. The large increase in opium was not in Indian opium, but in Turkey and Persian, which are driving Benares, Malwa, and Patna out of the market.

The great decrease in the import of cotton and woollen goods was mainly due to the failure of the sugar crops, farmers and labourers having no surplus money to expend on better clothing, which by them is looked upon as a luxury. The tolerably large stock held over from the preceding year had, also, somewhat to do with the falling-off in the import of these articles.

As the population of the island increases, and as more land is brought under cultivation, so will the consumption of our cottons and woollens most probably increase.

The opium trade was, to a small extent, interfered with by the adulteration of opium with sesamum-seed cake. The authorities endeavoured to put a stop to this by issuing a Proclamation threatening with punishment those found guilty of such practices. This was the means of stopping it for a time, but it is, I believe, still secretly carried on, though in a much less degree than formerly.

The sale of opium for the present year is likely to be lessened by the imposition of a higher rate of duty. On the 30th December the duty on Benares opium was raised to 96 taels (27*l*. 12*s*.) per chest, and on Persian opium to 80 taels (23*l*.); being an increase of 41 t. 6 m.

(11*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*) per chest on Benares, and 52 t. 8 in. (15*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*) per chest on Persiau.

The carrying trade of the district, it is encouraging to report, was very largely shared in by British ships.

Two new firms have been established here during the past year. One, a British firm, Messrs. Brown and Co., had formerly a house here, but closed it some years ago. This firm are also agents for a large American house. The other firm is a German one, a branch house of Messrs. Dircks and Co., of Swatow. They have taken over the business of another German firm, J. Mannich and Co., long established here. Messrs. Dircks and Co.'s business is more extended than that of their predecessors: one or two steamers, belonging to the firm, running frequently between Taiwan and Swatow.

The Takow bar and harbour are not yet dredged, and there does not appear to be any likelihood of this work being carried out at an early date. This is to a great extent materially affecting the prospects of Takow as a place of residence. The regular trading steamers never visit it, and during the south-west monsoon the place is quite deserted, the mercantile agents spending the greater part of their time at Anping, the port of Taiwanfoo.

The place selected at Anping by foreigners to build their residences and warehouses upon was a few years ago nothing more than a mud flat, covered at high water, situated directly opposite the old Dutch fort of Zealandia.

Two centuries or more ago this mud flat was a navigable arm of the sea, with sufficient depth of water to float the richly-laden argosies of the Dutch East-India Company. Every firm has its residence, or godown, built there, and the Customs have an office and examination shed built upon it. Within the past year a bund, 800 feet long and 14 feet wide, was constructed, at a cost of 2,165 dollars, of which 960 dollars were subscribed by the Chinese authorities.

All the imports of the district are now landed at Anping; goods required for consumption in Takow being taken down by a small steamer.

The port of Anping is nothing more than an open roadstead, most dangerous and difficult of access during the south-west monsoon. During that season steamers are frequently unable to land their cargoes for weeks, and communication with the mainland is often interrupted for a long time, a bar rendered almost impassable by the slightest south-west wind making communication with the steamers in the roadstead highly hazardous and dangerous.

Yet with all this the merchants prefer to make Anping their headquarters to Takow, as, on the arrival of steamers, they get their correspondence at once, and are enabled to send their replies by the same steamer; whereas a merchant living at Takow, 28 miles distant, misses that steamer, and has to wait till the next, and in summer he may not get a chance of replying to his constituents for weeks. The prospects of Takow are thus for the time under a cloud, yet, if the authorities would only dredge the bar, deepen the harbour, and make a good road or a canal to Taiwanfoo, the steamers might possibly return to Takow, and it would become a great commercial emporium, and a harbour of refuge easily accessible at all seasons of the year.

I fear, however, that, at least for years to come, nothing will be done, and once the merchants expend large sums for houses and godowns at Anping, it will be difficult to get them to remove back quickly to Takow.

There must, however, always be a trade in sugar at Takow, which gives employment yearly to fifty or sixty foreign vessels. The sugar exported last year from Takow was 23,000 tons, valued at 227,254*l.*

Owing to the greater care used in preparing it for the market, Takow sugar will always command a higher price than Taiwanfoo sugar, which is hardly saleable in the Japanese market.

The past year was remarkable for the numerous gales and typhoons, which did much damage to the rice and sweet potato crops; the sugar crop has also much suffered. In many parts of the district the people were driven to great straits, and much rice had to be imported. These gales were felt most severely at the Pescadores, a group of islands some 35 miles distant from Taiwanfoo. Every crop serving for food for man or beast was destroyed, and, at one time, so great was the distress prevailing there that fathers came to Taiwan with their children, offering them for sale in order to supply themselves with the necessaries of life. Subscriptions for the purchase of rice, potatoes, and provender were set on foot, and liberally responded to, and Government vessels were freighted and sent over at once to supply the wants of the starving inhabitants.

Earthquakes were very frequent during the past year. There were some seven shocks in all, but the most violent were those of the 17th June and 4th December. Their direction was from north-east to south-west.

This island is very subject to earthquakes, but they are not usually attended with much damage. The last severe earthquake here was on the 8th June, 1862, when some fifty houses were destroyed, and some 300 Chinese buried in the ruins. There were no foreign houses built here at that time.

Missionary work has been quietly carried on by the missionary bodies here. The Presbyterian Mission, in the spring of 1881, established another dispensary in the suburbs of Taiwanfoo, which is doing much good. In the city they have a large hospital, in which a very considerable number of Chinese are treated. There is another large hospital at Takow, where Chinese are treated by the resident local doctor, a non-missionary. This hospital has also done much good to the poor of the neighbouring districts. It is pleasing to be able to state that the Chinese authorities have willingly contributed large sums towards the expenses of both these establishments.

A new lighthouse is in the course of erection at the South Cape, but will not, I think, be finished before the autumn. A small light is, however, now exhibited there. A light has also been placed on Fort Zealandia, which is visible at sea for a long distance in every direction.

The plant, engines, and carriages of the Woosung Railway are still stored in Taiwanfoo, and are now very nearly useless. The wooden sleepers are being gradually eaten away by the white ants, the engines and rails are thickly covered with rust, and the carriages are rotting and spoiling.

The telegraph and telephone are, however, still in good working order.

There is an attempt on the part of the Governor of Fookien to improve the communications existing between the north and south of the island. At a place called Tyka, half-way between Taiwanfoo and Tamsui, there are some nine streams, which in summer are most dangerous to cross, and many lives are said to be yearly lost there.

The Governor is trying to drain the marshes in the neighbourhood and to construct a series of embankments, which are to be connected by means of suspension bridges, but the work appears to offer inconceivable difficulties, and it seems now to be questioned if it can be accomplished without foreign aid. The cost of the work will be, it is said by some, over 800,000 dollars, while others estimate it at a much higher sum.

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul*.

British Consulate, Taiwan, February 28, 1882.

The Tables appended to this Report are :—

1. Comparative Statement of Trade, 1876-81.
2. Foreign Imports.
3. Native Imports.
4. Exports.
5. Re-exports.
6. Table showing Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared under each flag.
7. Comparative Table, showing Export of Sugar, 1876-81.
8. Comparative Table, showing Import of Opium, 1876-81.
9. Import and Export of Treasure.

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 1.)—COMPARATIVE Statement of Trade, &c., for the Years 18 to 1881.

Years.	Value of the Trade.				Treasure.		Shipping.	
	Net Imports (Native and Foreign, less Re-exports).	Exports (not including Re-exports).	Total Imports and Exports.	Re- Exports.	Imported.	Exported.	Tonnage Entered.	Tonnage Cleared.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Tons.	Tons.
1876 ...	1,282,576	1,415,744	2,698,320	19,007	473,979	437,015	62,351	63,258
1877 ...	1,512,244	1,525,470	2,837,714	30,914	368,427	455,310	42,440	42,021
1878 ...	1,372,660	1,120,723	2,493,383	77,818	197,410	547,372	38,012	36,897
1879 ...	1,711,509	2,039,416	3,750,925	56,011	683,177	527,060	52,183	52,189
1880 ...	1,966,466	2,561,078	4,527,544	19,876	914,125	471,746	59,046	60,274
1881 ...	2,305,595	1,753,716	4,059,311	24,854	350,081	762,203	61,861	62,016

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 2.)—NET Total Imports of Foreign Goods for the Year 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Opium—			
Benares	Piculs ..	1,560 09	596,843
Patna	" ..	74 40	29,530
Persian	" ..	1,814 84	784,910
Turkey	" ..	289 39	123,270
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey, plain	Pieces ..	14,099	22,209
" white	" ..	9,567	22,075
" dyed	" ..	1,116	3,002
" .. spotted and brocaded.	" ..	710	1,739
T-cloths	" ..	8,400	10,775
Drills	" ..	1,680	3,424
Chintzes	" ..	439	603
Turkey red cloths	" ..	3,458	5,871
Cambrics and muslins	" ..	2,188	1,910
Linen, coarse	" ..	88	369
Unclassed	" ..	728	502
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	535	334
Thread	Piculs ..	27 19	1,422

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Woollen goods—			
Blankets.. .. .	Pairs ..	690½	2,074
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	3,256	39,891
Lastings	" ..	939	9,028
Long ells	" ..	1,030	6,595
Spanish stripes	" ..	132	1,605
Lustres and Orleans ..	" ..	511	2,010
Cloth, habit, broad, and medium	" ..	402	8,271
Cassimeres	" ..	47	517
Flannels	" ..	85	1,043
Woollen goods, unclassified ..	" ..	144	814
Woollen and cotton mixtures ..	" ..	3	28
Woollen braid	Boxes ..	1,112	1,012
Metals—			
Iron, nail rod	Piculs ..	1,356 83	4,097
" old	" ..	1,176 84	1,797
Lead, in pigs	" ..	422 40	2,250
Tin, in slabs	" ..	20 04	306
" in plates	" ..	93 54	440
Quicksilver	" ..	12 32	617
Steel	" ..	44 65	236
Sundries—			
Bêche-de-mer, black	" ..	63 54	2,305
" white	" ..	97 63	1,465
Birds' nests, 2nd and 3rd qualities	" ..	2 02	1,547
Buttons, brass	Gross ..	495	353
Camphor, Baroos, clean and refuse	Piculs ..	0 73	1,307
Cardamums, inferior and superior	" ..	21 91	707
Clocks	Pieces ..	193	505
Cloth, cotton, Japan	" ..	3,046	1,209
Cloves	Piculs ..	20 85	534
Cuttle fish	" ..	364 65	4,838
Dye	Bottles ..	5,151	955
Flints	Piculs ..	1,517 37	1,918
Flour	" ..	4,821 18	12,923
Ginseng, American, clarified ..	" ..	30 17	8,320
" " crude	" ..	4 39	613
" Corean, 2nd quality	" ..	1 57	2,115
Isinglass.. .. .	" ..	26 08	895
Lacquered ware	" ..	11 39	455
Lamps	Pieces ..	2,001	847
Mangrove bark	Piculs ..	1,231 54	1,128
Matches	Gross ..	6,675	2,688
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	49 79	1,614
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	81,120	14,287
Pepper, black and white	Piculs ..	159 45	1,325
Raisins	" ..	253 57	1,030
Rice	" ..	6,060 12	9,533
Rugs	Pieces ..	204	333
Sandal wood	Piculs ..	455 14	2,018
Shell fish	" ..	180 56	2,118
Towels .. .. .	" ..	..	..
Umbrellas, alpaca and silk ..	Pieces ..	1,319	929
Window glass	Boxes ..	178	465
Wood, Garroo	Piculs ..	4 61	567
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	5,796
Total .. .. .	..	..	1,779,051

1,779,051 H. taels, equal to 511,477l. 3s. 3d. at 5s. 9d.

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, Consul.

(No. 3.)—NET Total Imports of Native Produce for the Year 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Aniseed, star	Piculs ..	74 52	1,024
Bags, hemp	Pieces ..	223,051	7,583
„ mat and straw.. ..	„ ..	568,190	19,076
Beans and peas	Piculs ..	17,226 14	32,703
Bone and horn ware.. ..	„ ..	5 71	572
Brass buttons	„ ..	36 71	2,128
„ pipes	Pieces ..	1,429	802
„ ware.. .. .	Piculs ..	46 18	1,496
„ wire.. .. .	„ ..	14 97	558
Bricks and tiles	Pieces ..	665,363	3,309
Cassia lignea	Piculs ..	77 23	699
„ twigs	„ ..	107 99	535
China root.. .. .	„ ..	78 51	702
Coal	Tons ..	267 14	1,393
Cotton, raw	Piculs ..	46 03	597
Crackers, fireworks	„ ..	50 66	750
Dates, black and red	„ ..	261 26	1,072
Fans, paper	Pieces ..	19,793	982
„ silk and palm-leaf	„ ..	15,425	952
Fish, dried and salt	Piculs ..	677 21	2,816
Fungus	„ ..	124 38	3,246
Ginseng, native	„ ..	17 17	1,808
Glass or vitrified ware	„ ..	129 60	3,604
Grass cloth, coarse and fine	„ ..	145 66	7,266
Ironware	„ ..	1,452 59	7,226
Jadestone bangles	Pairs ..	3,989	5,263
Lamps	Pieces ..	9,072	1,826
Lead, red and white	Piculs ..	121 30	934
Lily flowers, dried	„ ..	556 32	5,005
„ seeds or lotus nuts	„ ..	77 09	1,396
Medicines	„ ..	1,743 37	13,795
Melon seeds	„ ..	629 54	3,159
Mirrors with frames	Pieces ..	12,905	847
Nankeen and native cotton cloths	Piculs ..	49 49	2,241
Oil, bean	„ ..	2,071 17	11,767
„ ground-nut	„ ..	2,194 22	12,033
Paper, 1st quality	„ ..	44 21	832
Prawns, dried	„ ..	459 84	4,597
Rice	„ ..	163,267 01	248,050
Safflower	„ ..	28 76	1,726
Samshu	„ ..	226 43	679
Sesamum-seed cake	„ ..	304 15	4,734
Shoes, satin and cotton	Pairs ..	1,394	926
Silk ribbons and thread	Piculs ..	13 27	3,962
„ piece-goods	„ ..	11 32	5,613
„ caps	Pieces ..	4,072	1,093
„ and cotton mixtures	Piculs ..	12 45	3,202
Tallow, animal	„ ..	300 06	3,159
Tobacco, prepared	„ ..	1,802 96	27,165
Vermicelli.. .. .	„ ..	561 62	3,800
Wax, white.. .. .	„ ..	90 56	6,655
Wheat	„ ..	9,620 35	14,999
Woollen and cotton mixtures	Pieces ..	16,550	15,705
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	18,482
Total .. .. .	..	..	526,544

526,544 H. taels, equal to 151,381*l*. 8*s*. at 5*s*. 9*d*.

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul*.

(No. 4).—EXPORTS of Native Produce during 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.	Totals.
			H. tael.	H. tael.
To foreign countries—				
Sugar, brown	Piculs ..	399,410 68	835,621	843,274
„ white	„ ..	1,077 80	4,730	
Turmeric	„ ..	980 60	2,905	
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	18
To Hong Kong (destination uncertain)—				
Bamboo-shoots	Piculs ..	284 60	1,320	207,386
Hemp	„ ..	45 90	601	
„ skin	„ ..	1,235 80	2,046	
Lung-ngans, dried	„ ..	47 00	87	
„ without the stone ..	„ ..	155 88	676	
Sugar, brown	„ ..	61,440 25	131,305	
„ white	„ ..	15,657 37	68,839	
Turmeric	„ ..	662 75	1,922	
Wax, white	„ ..	2 86	175	
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	415
To Chinese ports—				
Fish roe	Piculs ..	24 65	313	690,459
Hemp	„ ..	967 43	12,284	
„ skin	„ ..	134 04	267	
„ thread	„ ..	39 48	670	
Lung-ngans, dried	„ ..	373 65	727	
„ without the stone ..	„ ..	388 82	1,710	
Rattans	„ ..	61 36	123	
Sharks' fins, white	„ ..	6 39	237	
Sugar, brown	„ ..	257,733 60	548,829	
„ white	„ ..	19,398 05	86,295	
Turmeric	„ ..	17,654 42	50,272	
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	1,329
Total	1,753,716

1,753,716 H. tael., equal to 504,193*l.* 7*s.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 5.)—RE-EXPORTS during 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.	Total.
			Taels.	Taels.
Of foreign goods—				
Opium—				
Benares	Piculs ..	2 40	850	
Persian	„ ..	41 53	18,084	
Turkey	„ ..	4 08	1,772	
				20,706
Cotton goods—				
Chintzes	Pieces ..	20	24	
Unclassed	„ ..	60	77	
				101
Woollen goods—				
Camlets	„ ..	70	854	
Long ells	„ ..	133	851	
Spanish stripes ..	„ ..	4	48	
Lustres, &c.	„ ..	110	433	
Braid	Boxes ..	20	20	
				2,206
Sundries—				
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	1 60	48	
				48
Total re-exports of foreign goods .	Value ..	..	..	23,061
Of Chinese produce—				
(a.) Native imports re-exported to Chinese ports—				
Fish, dried and salt	Piculs ..	7	28	
Wheat	„ ..	794 90	1,232	
(b.) Native imports re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong—				
Wax, white	„ ..	5 76	518	
Sundries	Value ..	..	15	
				1,793
Net total re-exports of foreign goods and native produce .. ..	„ ..	..	..	24,854

24,854 taels, equal to 7,145*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 6.)—NUMBER and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag during 1881.

Flag.	Entered.						Cleared.						Total Entered and Cleared.							
	Sailing.			Steamers.			Total.			Sailing.					Steamers.			Total.		
	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.			No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
British..	32	11,039	53	26,880	85	37,919	33	11,338	53	26,880	86	38,218	171	76,137						
American..	3	1,015	..	..	3	1,015	3	1,015	..	..	3	1,015	6	2,030		
German..	55	16,636	8	4,038	64	20,674	55	16,492	8	4,038	63	20,530	127	41,204						
French..	1	309	..	..	1	309	1	309	..	..	1	309	2	618		
Danish..	5	1,235	..	..	5	1,235	5	1,235	..	..	5	1,235	10	2,470		
Dutch ..	1	263	..	..	1	263	1	263	..	..	1	263	2	526		
Swedish and Norwegian ..	2	446	..	..	2	446	2	446	..	..	2	446	4	892		
Total ..	100	30,943	61	30,918	161	61,861	100	31,098	61	30,918	161	62,016	322	123,877						

TAIWAN.

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(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, Consul.

(No. 7.)—COMPARATIVE Table showing the Export of Brown Sugar for the Years 1876 to 1881.

Years.	Tien-tsin.	Chefoo.	Newchwang.	Shanghai.	Ningpo.	Foochow.	Amoy.	Swatow.	Total to Coast Ports.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1876	26,128	233,799	16,340	60,023	8,087	...	17,754	...	362,031
1877	35,918	91,442	...	8,586	2,594	...	5,561	...	144,101
1878	15,995	117,926	2,107	18,208	3,746	...	1,034	...	159,016
1879	35,487	159,964	4,850	62,225	1,947	...	6,922	...	270,415
1880	41,025	127,167	7,446	64,909	...	13	395	...	244,995
1881	62,322	136,345	3,620	52,406	...	186	1,960	565	257,784

Years.	Japan.	Australia.	Great Britain.	United States of America.	Valparaiso.	Hong Kong.	Total to Foreign Countries.	Grand Total to Coast Ports and Foreign Countries.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1876	275,685	5,831	142,374	...	14,249	51,318	469,457	851,468
1877	242,431	79,264	18,500	73,077	...	10,219	423,481	567,583
1878	165,967	49,409	11,676	...	...	5,786	232,838	391,854
1879	244,643	139,799	...	...	...	6,847	431,269	701,644
1880	331,894	46,079	152,220	130,431	...	92,006	752,640	927,635
1881	263,998	45,494	69,929	...	...	61,440	460,851	718,585

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 8.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Import and Re-export of Opium for the Years 1876 to 1881.

Years.	Benares.	Malwa.	Patna.	Persian.	Turkey.	Total.	Total Re-Exports.	Net Total Imports.
	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
1876	1,402 80	117 30	369 60	802 65	0 75	2,693 10	34 71	2,658 39
1877	1,720 80	9 00	176 67	1,324 87	1 98	3,233 22	66 28	3,166 04
1878	1,480 44	19 74	38 40	1,435 08	85 08	3,058 73	206 94	2,852 80
1879	1,883 62	70 70	86 40	1,331 66	137 56	3,609 94	123 13	3,386 81
1880	1,978 80	42 29	49 20	1,582 82	30 85	3,683 96	36 58	3,647 38
1881	1,562 49	...	74 40	1,856 37	293 47	3,788 73	48 01	3,738 72

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 9.)—TREASURE and Copper Cash Imported and Exported during the Year 1881.

IMPORTED.				EXPORTED.			
From—		Treasure.	Copper Cash.	To—		Treasure.	Copper Cash.
		H. taels.				H. taels.	
Japan	...	31,417	...	Shanghai	...	1,963	...
Tamsui	...	86,719	...	Foochow	...	6,152	...
Amoy	...	136,728	...	Tamsui	...	818	...
Swatow	...	1,309	...	Amoy	...	482,453	...
Hong Kong	...	143,908	...	Swatow	...	20,550	...
	...	...	...	Hong Kong	...	249,867	...
Total	...	350,061	...	Total	...	762,203	...

Rate of exchange, Hukwan tael equal to 5s. 9d.

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

TAMSUI

Report on the Foreign Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the Year 1881.

THE following Tables are annexed to this Report, viz. :—

1. Comparative Table of the Values of the Net Total Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
2. Table showing the Revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs at Tamsui during the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
3. Comparative Table of the Foreign Shipping at the Ports of Tamsui and Kelung for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
4. Comparative Table of principal Imports, excluding Opium, for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
5. Comparative Table of the Import of Foreign Opium from 1879 to 1881.
6. Comparative Table of the Export Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
7. Passenger Traffic in Foreign Vessels at Tamsui and Kelung during the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
8. Comparative Table of Import and Export of Treasure at Tamsui for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.

These Tables have been compiled from the Returns prepared by the Office of the Imperial Maritime Customs at this port, which Returns were courteously placed at my disposal. In making calculations the Haikwan tael has been counted at 5s. 6d., as in the Report and Tables for 1880.

IMPORTS.

It will be seen from Table 1 that there has been a steady and marked increase in the total of imports for the last three years. The value of the foreign imports in 1881 was 31,312*l.* above that of the previous year, and in like manner the value of native imports was last year 8,541*l.* above that of 1880.

Of the foreign imports, it is mainly in cotton goods and pig lead that there is an increase; some of the other commodities, and several of the native imports, show a decrease. The Customs Returns do not distinguish between English and American cotton goods, and so it is not possible to write with confidence as to whether the import of British cotton goods has increased. Nor is any distinction of name made by the retailers and consumers. But I have been informed, on very good authority, that American cotton goods are fast becoming popular here, and that the importation of them has grown quickly. They are said to be in several respects much superior to those of English manufacture, and they are much cheaper. The price of white shirtings during the year was about 3 dol. 20 c. per piece; that of grey shirtings, superior, about 2 dol. 65 c., inferior, about 2 dol. 55 c.; that of T-cloths 1 dol. 70 c. to 1 dol. 85 c.

Table 5 reveals the extraordinary fact that the importation of foreign opium is gradually diminishing in quantity. As there was less opium reported at the Foreign Customs in 1880 than in 1879, so there was less in 1881 than in 1880. There can scarcely be any doubt that the amount of opium consumed was much greater, and this is the unanimous opinion

of all whom I have consulted. Though the officials of the Custom-house and *Li-kin* Office have a good look-out, yet it is likely that a considerable amount of foreign opium was smuggled into Tamsui and Kelung by passengers and crews of foreign vessels, and also by native craft. A large quantity of Chinese opium also is reported to have been imported last year by junks, and one merchant calculates the value of the opium thus imported at about 100,000 dollars. It comes mainly from the Province of Chekiang, and, as it is cheap, it is much used by the poor of the port and neighbourhood, who call it "Ningpo Persian." In addition to the Chinese opium imported, there was a certain amount produced in North Formosa. One informant states that so much as about 250,000 lbs. of local origin was consumed last year. With reference to the foreign drug, it will be seen that while the import of Benares has fallen off, that of Persia and Turkey has risen. The merchants who trade in opium all report that Persian is gaining in popularity very decidedly.

The prices of Benares during the year are reported to have been, per chest :—

				Dollars.
January and February .	..	..	..	745 to 730
March and April ..	..	..	..	680 645
May to June .	..	..	..	648 680
July to August ..	..	..	..	680 730
September to October .	..	..	..	710 700
November to December	..	..	..	705 735

The farming out of the *li-kin* tax on foreign opium does not appear to have affected the trade in opium to any appreciable extent. The sum which the farmers of the tax agreed to pay for the year was 50,000 dollars; but when the authorities saw the return of the foreign opium imported, they made the farmers pay an additional sum of 30,000 dollars, the whole amount of *li-kin* on foreign opium collected during the year being counted at about 110,000 dollars. The revenue which the Chinese Government collected from foreign opium at this port last year must have been considerably above 25,000/. This does not include the duties, or "squeezes," collected at the various inland barrier stations.

The Returns show an increase of 2,116 piculs in the amount of lead in pigs imported last year above that imported in 1880. This increase in the supply of lead is called for by the extension of the tea trade, but the importation last year is supposed to have been excessive.

None of the other imports call for special notice. It may be worthy of mention, however, that, on account of lowness of freight, the steamers last year imported indigo. This commodity was previously carried only in junks, and the indigo exported from this place is still so carried.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—The Returns again show a considerable increase in the export of tea. Last year the amount was 12,859,467 lbs., and that of 1880 was 12,063,450 lbs., giving an increase of 796,017 lbs., in 1881, as compared with 1880. The quality of the tea, however, was inferior, and considerably below the average of former years. As the quantity produced increases, the quality, on the whole, seems to deteriorate. Last season was not, I have been told, a very prosperous one for the merchants and packers, but very good for the growers, who must have made large profits. The share taken by the foreign firms in the business last year was about the same as in the one before. The number of the Chinese traders remains, also, much as it was, though some of the hongts change from year to year. The season began very early, the first purchases having been made about the middle of March.

About the beginning of the season the prices of "good" and "superior" were about 25 and 27 dollars a picul respectively. But the prices soon rose, and continued very high for some time. About the end of August they began to decline, but an unexpected demand for fine teas for London sent the prices for these up again. Afterwards, however, prices declined, until in December they were lower than those at the beginning of the season. While prices were very high the foreign firms did not buy much, but the native hongts bought largely. These latter took up all the fine teas they could get at any price, however high, and at the same time provided themselves with very inferior teas, for the purpose of mixing. Not only were the bad leaves of this locality bought up for this purpose, but from the mainland also a considerable quantity of inferior tea was imported by junk. The Chinese authorities at Amoy, on the request of Her Majesty's Consul there, took measures to stop the exportation of tea from the mainland to this port for use in mixing.

The cultivation of the tea shrub is extending far and quickly in this island. The farmers seem to think the shrub will flourish in any kind of soil, and at any elevation, and with any aspect. Experience has, however, already taught some that there are situations and circumstances in which it will not thrive. Hence several plantations have had to be given up, at least for the present, and it is likely that several others will have to be abandoned. But as these are given up others are formed, and, in several cases, bad and useless plants have been replaced by others, young and healthy. There are tea plantations now on many of the hills which only a few years ago were inaccessible to any Chinaman. The savages who then haunted these hills have been driven back to the higher mountains, but in some districts there are tea farms in dangerous proximity to savage settlements. It is not easy to give much attention to the crop in such circumstances, and, indeed, many growers seem to plant the young shrub, and afterwards take no further care of it. Others weed and prune, and generally expend much labour on their plantation.

Camphor.—The export of camphor in 1881 was less than that of 1880 by about 3,000 piculs, the former year showing 9,316 piculs against 12,335 in the latter. One cause for this falling-off was the lowness of prices in Hong Kong, the place to which all Tamsui camphor is consigned. Another was the enhanced difficulty of obtaining and transporting the camphor. In the district from which mainly it is obtained the savages, last year, were acting on the aggressive. There were several serious fights during the year between them and the Chinese, in which the latter suffered severely. As the hills are cleared the difficulty of obtaining and transporting the camphor increases, and, as matters are now, the trade in this article is not likely to flourish. The price of camphor at the beginning of the year was 12 dol. 40 c. a tub of about 460 lbs. In June it rose to 13 dollars, but soon after it fell to 10 dollars, at which it remained to the end of the year. Of the camphor exported, only 57 piculs were brought to port under transit pass by British merchants.

Coal.—The amount of coal exported from Kelung and Tamsui in foreign vessels during the year 1881, as reported to the Imperial Maritime Customs, was 46,178 tons. In 1880 the amount so reported was 24,654 tons, and there was consequently an increase of 21,524 tons in the export of 1881 as compared with that of the year before. These figures show only the amount shipped in foreign vessels and reported to the Customs. A very large quantity besides was taken away from Kelung by the Chinese Government steamers, transports, and men-of-war. The coal thus exported was derived entirely from the Government mine at Coal Harbour, but I have not been able to ascertain its amount.

There was a large demand for Kelung coal last year, and the prices

rose considerably. The quotations at the Government mine at the end of the year, as supplied to me, were 1 dollar per ton for coal dust, 3 dollars for "nuts," and 4 dol. 10 c. for large coal. The prices at the private mines were a little lower, and there was a ready market for all they could yield.

The Government colliery works were last year put under the management of a Cantonese official of considerable abilities. Since he came into office the mine seems to have prospered, and I believe, as a commercial undertaking, it is very successful. Much of the success is doubtless due to the enthusiastic and persevering devotion of the superintending engineer, Mr. Tyzack, to its interests. In the issue of the Hong Kong "China Mail" for the 8th September last there is an article on the Kelung mine, which is evidently officially inspired. From this article I transcribe the following:—

"Concerning the output of the mines, it is worthy of note that great progress has been made during the last two or three years. In the year 1878 the total amount raised was 14,029 tons; this was more than doubled during the year 1879, the total shown for that year being 30,046 tons. A very large increase upon this last amount was shown by the last year's working; and for the first half-year of 1881 we are informed that nearly 30,000 tons have been brought to the surface. Indeed, with one or two more shafts it is confidently expected that the output might be increased to 500 tons per day, or say, roughly, allowing for New Year and other slack seasons, 150,000 tons per annum. When it is borne in mind that this result is attainable at a cost little in excess of that incurred in 1878 by the production of 14,000 tons, it may be perceived why the Chinese are beginning to understand and appreciate the value of such a work as the Kelung Colliery. Indeed, fewer Europeans are connected with the work now than were employed in 1878, and as the only additional outlay on production is to be credited to the native coal-hewers, who are paid on an average, say, 40 cents per ton for their labour, the profit upon the larger output must be very considerable. As at present managed, therefore, it would appear that the Anglo-Chinese mining operations at Kelung bid fair to prove a paying speculation for the Chinese Government. The mines are now, we believe, nominally under the supervision of the Commissioner of Customs at Foochow, and seeing that the Foochow arsenal and the gun-boats connected with it are believed to be good customers of the colliery, such an arrangement is probably an improvement upon former plans. It would be interesting to find how far the Kelung product is likely to supersede the English and Australian article, so far as this coast is concerned; but we believe that the China Merchants' Company and the official gun-boats will, in time, draw a large portion of their supply from this source. The cost of Kelung coal is stated to be, taking large and small into account, about 2 dol. 50 c. per ton, and even after charges for transport are added, the rate would compare favourably with those ruling for other kinds. For the present, however, it may be said that the principal effect of this competition upon the coal-market in China will be more a lessening of the demand on the Chinese side for foreign coal than anything else. What influence it may exercise upon the market in the future will depend in a great measure upon the careful working of the coal, the maintenance of its quality, and its acceptance by large consumers on the China coast. An English agency for this description of coal was mooted some time ago, but nothing has lately been heard of the project."

In 1881 there were fifty-one British vessels which loaded with coal at Kelung, while in 1880 the number was only thirty-six. Coal is the only export from Kelung, place which has few or no imports. Not only at

the Government coal mine was there increased activity last year. The private mines also had very remunerative employment, and several new mines were opened near Kelung and Nuan-nuan. Nearly all the coal from this latter district is brought to Tamsui. Besides what is exported in foreign vessels and Chinese Government transports, a large quantity is taken away in junks to the mainland and to various ports in Formosa.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered Tamsui and Kelung last year was, according to Customs Returns, 138 of 58,879 tons. These were distributed as to nationality thus:—

British	..	..	..	..	..	115
Chinese (steamers)	..	..	..	..	..	4
German	..	..	..	..	..	16
Swedish	..	..	..	..	..	3
						<hr/> 138

The Chinese steamer which had been running opposition to the Douglas Lapraik line in 1880 made only three trips at the beginning of last year. The experiment made by the China Merchants' Company could not have been remunerative, but it remains to be seen whether it is to be repeated.

There was not any casualty or other circumstance of note with reference to foreign shipping at this port or Kelung during the year.

Besides the three China Merchants' Companies' steamers there is a steamer reported as Chinese. This is a small launch introduced by a native storekeeper and compradore. The launch was made at Hong Kong, and was originally intended to carry passengers, tow junks, and carry cargo. It now plies as a passenger boat between this place and Banka, making the trip there and back twice or thrice a day. It is already a great favourite, and, judging from the number of passengers who travel by it, the experiment must be pronounced successful.

GENERAL.

An innovation was made last year by the high provincial authorities at Foochow, which may eventually prove of some importance. Certain steamers, called and treated as Chinese men-of-war, had for some years come and gone between Foochow and Kelung or Tamsui. A few of these were last year reduced to the rank of transport steamers, and set apart for the conveyance of troops and munitions of war. Then an announcement was suddenly made that these steamers would carry passengers and cargo between Foochow and the ports of Formosa. They now run between Kelung and Foochow, and carry passengers at 3 dollars each. They have not as yet, so far as my information goes, got any cargo, nor have they begun to ply between Tamsui and Foochow, or any other port on the mainland. The Assistant or Deputy Haikuan, however, has been appointed agent here, and the civil authority at Kelung has been appointed agent at that port. These vessels do not enter at the Imperial Maritime Customs except for cargo at Treaty ports; they can go apparently to any port, whether open to foreign commerce or not, and they are subject to very little control. If they are to enter into competition with foreign vessels, the latter will doubtless suffer severely. These Chinese Government steamers, however, draw too much water to allow them to cross the Tamsui bar at the ordinary high tides when they have even a small cargo.

Last year was a very disastrous one to the small farmers in several large districts of North Formosa. There were three typhoons, of which two were very terrible, and swept not only over this country but also over a vast extent of territory besides. The rice crops of this region were in some places utterly destroyed, and the tea and other crops also were in several districts either ruined or greatly damaged. These typhoons were attended by heavy and continued downfalls of rain, and all the rivers and streams overflowed their banks and inundated the country, in some cases sweeping off trees, shrubs, standing crops, and carrying away bridges and embankments. The ravages caused were dreadful to contemplate, and they must have occasioned great privations and misery. The rice produced here was insufficient for the requirements of the inhabitants, and a quantity was imported from the mainland. The price of rice at Banka varied from 2 dol. 50 c. to about 3 dollars per picul of 120 catties. The immediate neighbourhood of Tamsui did not suffer very much from the typhoons and floods, and a considerable amount of rice was taken away in the Government steamers for the starving inhabitants of the Pescadore Islands. The summer and autumn crops were both harvested in this district, but the latter was considerably injured.

An important element in estimating the commercial prosperity of this place is its Chinese passenger traffic. Table 7 gives a comparative view of this traffic for the last three years. From this it appears that in 1881 so many as 12,696 Chinese travelled by foreign vessels to and from these ports, the number in 1880 having been 8,648, which was a considerable advance on the year previous. In addition to the passengers carried in foreign vessels there were several hundreds of Chinese who travelled by the Chinese Government steamers to and from Kelung and Foochow. The increase in the passenger traffic is doubtless due largely to a reduction in the rates of passage-money by steamer. A common Chinaman will prefer to pay 3 dollars for his passage in a steamer to 2 dollars for one in a junk, but he will not pay 4 dollars for the former.

In Table 8, I have given a comparative statement of the import and export of treasure at these ports for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881. From this Table it will be seen that the import of treasure last year was less than that of 1880 by 23,430*l.*, and that the export was greater by 1,538*l.*

On the whole, the past year may be considered from the commercial point of view, if not very good, at least more than up to the average. The revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs during the year amounted to 88,128*l.*, being, as shown in Table 2, greater than that of 1880 by 4,216*l.* An increase in this branch of the revenue indicates an increase in other branches, and the Imperial Government may feel satisfied at the results of foreign commerce at this port. The revenue from taxes on land and other kinds of property also grows from year to year, as jungles are cleared and waste lands brought under permanent cultivation, and the colonization by Chinese settlers extends. The people are also growing rich and prosperous, or at least all have it in their power to become such. Wages are high, trade is good, and there is now tolerable security for life and property.

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*

British Consulate, Tamsui, March 6, 1882.

(No. 1.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Values of the net total Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	Value in 1879.	Value in 1880.	Value in 1881.●	Increase in 1881 compared with 1880.
	£	£	£	£
Foreign imports	352,429	352,459	383,771	31,312
Native imports	73,127	91,313	99,854	8,541
Gross total imports ..	425,556	443,772	483,625	..
Deduct re-exports ..	214	5,378	6,895	..
Net total imports ..	425,342	438,394	476,730	38,336
Exports (excluding re-exports) ..	573,570	636,151	661,992	25,841
Net total trade	998,912	1,074,545	1,138,722	64,177

(Signed) T. WATERS, Consul.
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 2.)—TABLE showing the Revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs at Tamsui during the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£	£	£
Import duties (exclusive of opium) ..	5,917	6,664	6,072
" opium	9,385	10,579	10,600
Export duties	67,777	65,654	69,895
Coast trade	422	497	666
Transit	41	32	6
Tonnage dues	640	486	934
Total	78,182	83,912	88,128

Increase of revenue in 1881 as compared with that of 1880, 4,216/.

(Signed) T. WATERS, Consul.
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 3.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Foreign Shipping at the Ports of Tamsui and Kelung for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	1879.				1880.				1881.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British steamers ..	66	18,541	66	18,541	74	28,814	74	28,814	76	36,702	76	36,702
„ sailing-vessels ..	43	14,407	44	14,791	29	11,304	25	9,491	39	13,317	38	13,375
Total British ..	109	32,948	110	33,332	103	40,118	99	38,305	115	50,019	114	50,077
Foreign steamers ..	..	..	..	..	9	3,996	9	3,996	11	4,677	11	4,677
„ sailing-vessels ..	37	10,983	38	11,565	4	1,679	4	1,679	12	4,183	10	3,527
Total foreign ..	37	10,983	38	11,565	13	5,675	13	5,675	23	8,860	21	8,204
Total foreign and British ..	146	43,931	148	44,897	116	45,793	112	43,980	138	58,879	135	58,281
Total shipping entered and cleared—												
1879 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	294	88,828	..	..	..	..
1880 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	228	89,773	..	..	..	..
1881 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	273	117,160	..	..	..	..

British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(Signed)

T. WATERS, Consul.

(No. 4).—COMPARATIVE Table of principal Imports, excluding Opium, for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

Goods.		1879.	1880.	1881.	1881 compared with 1880.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
Grey shirtings..	Pieces	43,748	31,292	32,135	843	..
White „ ..	„	45,557	46,650	49,521	2,871	..
Sundry cottons ..	„	18,741	21,217	24,155	2,938	..
English camlets ..	„	3,310	2,987	2,879	..	108
Long ells ..	„	2,063	1,310	1,813	503	..
Sundry woollens ..	„	4,499	4,154	4,069	..	85
Nail-rod irons..	Piculs	438	1,319	746	..	573
Lead, in pigs ..	„	8,046	7,388	9,504	2,116	..
Tin, in slabs ..	„	157	177	141	..	36
Cotton yarn ..	„	324	372	435	63	..
Cuttle-fish ..	„	607	1,301	1,264	..	37
Grass-cloth, coarse ..	„	555	643	491	..	152
Medicines ..	„	1,367	1,961	1,542	..	419
Nankeens ..	„	474	660	253	..	407
Paper, second qualities ..	„	1,625	1,655	1,460	..	195
Silk thread ..	„	73	101	59	..	42

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.**British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.*

(No. 5).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Import of Foreign Opium from 1879 to 1881.

		1879.	1880.	1881.
		Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Benares ..	..	1,798·80	1,744·80	1,433·97
Patna ..	..	25·20	2·40	33·60
Persian ..	..	314·30	320·19½	447·40
Turkey ..	..	26·38	127·64½	274·80
		2,164·68	2,195·04½	2,189·77
Re-exported ..	..	..	45·96	47·65
Net imports ..	..	2,164·68	2,149·08½	2,142·12

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.**British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.*

(No. 6.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

Description of Goods.		1879.	1880.	1881.	1881 compared with 1880.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
Agar-agar	Piculs	803 87	653 22	4 83	...	648 39
Camphor	"	11,048 40	12,335 17	9,316 59	...	3,018 58
Coal	Tons	28,893	24,654	46,178	21,524	...
Hemp	Piculs	240 92	44 10	237 52	193 42	...
Rattans	"	665 30	304	111 04	...	192 96
Tea, black	"	85,032 83	90,475 88	96,446 01	5,970 13	...
Camphor-wood planks ...	Pieces	11,466	2,987	4,591	1,604	...
Hard wood ditto	"	4,419	1,929	1,835	94	...

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 7.)—PASSENGER Traffic in Foreign Vessels at Tamsui and Kelung during the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

		From Hong Kong and Coast Ports.		To Hong Kong and Coast Ports.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.	Europeans.	Chinese.
1879 .. ..	..	59	2,483	75	2,805
1880 .. ..	..	46	3,744	49	4,904
1881 .. ..	..	41	6,329	43	6,367

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 15, 1882.

(No. 8.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Import and Export of 'Treasure' at Tamsui for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

IMPORTED.

		Hong Kong.	Coast Ports.	Total.
		£	£	£
1879 .. ..	..	14,318	187,817	202,135
1880 .. ..	..	51,589	138,347	189,936
1881 .. ..	..	31,665	124,841	166,506

EXPORTED.

		Hong Kong.	Coast Ports.	Total.
		£	£	£
1879 .. ..	..	21,518	27,997	49,515
1880 .. ..	..	17,740	27,197	44,937
1881 .. ..	..	21,217	25,258	46,475

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

TIEN-TSIN.

Report on the Trade of Tien-tsin for the Year 1881.

THE total trade of the port of Tien-tsin during the year 1881, that is to say, the total trade in vessels owned by foreigners or of foreign type, amounted to 25,095,990 taels. Taking the tael (which is the Customs tael, equal to the amount of pure silver contained in 1.565 Mexican dollars) as being worth 5s 9d., we find this sum to be the equivalent of 7,215,097*l*. The imports amounted to 22,441,937 taels (6,452,057*l*.), and the exports to 2,654,033 taels (763,040*l*). In the year 1880, imports came to 23,402,834 taels, and exports to 2,797,282 taels; total, 26,200,116 taels. There was, therefore, a decrease in the year under review of about 1,100,000 taels, or rather more than 4 per cent. of the value of the trade. Taking, however, the net value of the trade, that is to say, deducting all goods which are imported and re-exported by sea, and the tea which is imported here in order to be sent overland to Russia, the trade for 1881 is 21,606,231 taels, against 2,668,434 taels in 1880. The decrease in value thus appears as only about 60,000 taels, which a close examination of the Returns shows to be more than covered by the great reduction in price at which many articles have been valued by the Custom-house during the past year. This reduction, I may remark, is in the case of many articles so great that it must clearly be due to some other cause than a natural depreciation in the value of the goods. Moreover, the branch of trade which is of far the greatest importance to us, that of foreign imports, shows an increase of 420,000 taels. Under these circumstances we may consider that the trade for the year under review is on a satisfactory footing, in spite of the diminution shown in the total of the gross Returns.

IMPORTS:

Foreign goods imported direct from foreign countries, including, of course, Hong Kong, come to 1,104,955 taels (317,675*l*.); and foreign goods imported via other Chinese ports to 9,619,963 taels; together, 10,724,918 taels (3,083,414*l*). Native produce from other parts of China amounts to 11,717,019 taels (3,083,414*l*); total, 22,441,937 taels (6,452,057*l*). Foreign goods were re-exported to the small value of 135,362 taels (38,916*l*.), and native goods to the still more trifling value of 17,914 taels (5,151*l*).

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

Foreign goods show an increase over the preceding year of about 420,000 taels (120,750*l*), the excess being divided among all the principal articles of import; while "sundries," on the other hand, were diminished by about 45,000 taels (13,837*l*).

Cotton Goods.—These are the most important of foreign imports at Tien-tsin. Their net value for 1881 is 6,146,039 taels (1,778,486*l*.), against 5,880,640 taels in 1880. Gray shirtings head the list with 1,115,598 pieces, against 975,075 pieces in the preceding year. After these come white shirtings, 536,659 pieces, against 421,881 pieces, the import for the year being the largest on record by nearly 100,000 pieces.

Next come T-cloths, 513,715 pieces against 494,140 pieces. Though there is thus a slight improvement shown in the demand for this article, still there appears no prospect of its resuming the position it held ten or twelve years ago, when more than 1,000,000 pieces were imported for several years in succession. According to information given me by Chinese dealers, the place of T-cloths has been taken by drills and sheetings. Though this is in some degree borne out by the Customs Returns, still the increase in the last-mentioned articles is not sufficient to account entirely for the decrease in the former, and there must be some further reason as well. American sheetings are 368,977 pieces, against 355,332 in 1880; British, 39,375, against 33,951. The factories of the United States, therefore, continue almost to monopolize the production of this particular article. It is to be hoped that manufacturers at home will soon turn their attention to this class of goods, and show whether they are able to compete in it with their rivals in America, who, according to political economy, should be hopelessly over-weighted in neutral markets by the protection which gives them a sure and safe trade in their own country. As the import of sheetings into China had in 1880 reached the respectable figure of 877,806 pieces, worth more than 500,000*l.*, it can hardly be said any longer that the trade in them is too insignificant for our manufacturers to think it worth troubling themselves about. American drills are 190,352 pieces, against 114,780 in 1880; English drills, 166,788, against 91,165. American drills, therefore, still keep the lead, although they no longer threaten to drive English drills entirely out of the market, as they seemed likely to do a few years ago. It must be remembered also that, if values be taken instead of quantities, the import from the United States will show a much larger excess over that from England. Thus, according to the Customs Returns, the American drills imported were worth 472,004 taels, or an average of 2.47 taels per piece; while the English drills were worth 327,923 taels, or 1.96 taels per piece. Dutch drills have almost dropped out of the trade, being 2,840 pieces against 49,300 in the preceding year. The import of Turkey red cambrics has increased from 119,011 to 156,683 pieces; and that of jeans and twills from 121,979 to 152,482 pieces. The only article which has fallen off, besides Dutch drills, is shirtings, dyed and brocaded, which have decreased from 13,695 to 5,775 pieces.

Generally speaking, the piece-goods trade for the year is said not to have been profitable; while the previous year, in which the import was so much smaller, is said to have been an exceptionally good one for all engaged in the trade. That large profits in one year should cause next year an excessive import, and consequent loss, is not an unusual case in China any more than in any other part of the world. Even the buyers, who should have profited by the forced sales at low rates, seem to have found that the consumption up country was not brisk enough to take off their goods at remunerative prices. White shirtings, however, I am informed, did well for the most part; and so did some expensive English drills, which were specially made to compete with the Americans. Indeed, as a general rule in all sorts of cottons, the better the quality of the article the more freely it sold, and the larger the profit it showed. If this continues to be the case in Tien-tsin and the other large markets of China, manufacturers in England will no longer have any reason to turn their attention chiefly to the production of heavily-sized articles. A small quantity—perhaps 20,000 pieces—of T-cloths and grey shirtings, manufactured in Bombay, were imported during the year, and were said to have sold profitably and to have pleased their buyers. A small quantity of yarn from the same place also met with a satisfactory reception. Samples of German piece-goods have lately been shown to the dealers, but I am

unable to say whether it is likely that the goods themselves will follow the samples.

The Province of Shan-si has always been a large customer for foreign piece-goods at this port. Though the terrible famine which ravaged the province four and five years ago is now, happily, a thing of the past, still its effects have not yet disappeared, and the condition and number of the population are far below what they were formerly. In two years more, however, say the Chinese here, the Shan-si trade will have resumed its normal state. I should hardly think that this could happen in so short a time. But, whether after two years, or after five or more years, we may certainly hope before very long to see a large development in the consumption of piece-goods at this port.

Woollen Goods.—On account of the severe cold prevailing throughout the north of China in the winter months, one would expect woollen goods to form an important item in the trade of Tien-tsin. Nevertheless, their consumption here bears a much smaller proportion to that of cotton goods than is the case at the ports in the centre of China, the reason doubtless being that in North China well-to-do persons who can afford to buy cloth invariably dress in furs during the winter. The import for 1881 shows a large increase over that for 1880, namely, 451,457 taels (129,794*l.*), against 395,875 taels. The improvement is shared by all the principal kinds of woollens, except lastings, which fell from 12,833 to 12,438 pieces. Spanish stripes have risen from 6,632 to 8,172 pieces. Long ells from 1,561 to 2,110 pieces. English camlets from 6,570 to 8,143 pieces. Lustres and orleans from 14,258 to 18,390 pieces. These last were formerly in much higher demand, the consumption of them being in 1873 as high as 75,000 pieces. So called Russian cloth, an imitation of real Russian cloth, made in Germany and exported from Hamburg, has increased from 1,920 to 3,320 pieces.

Metals.—The trade in these has grown from 246,410 taels to 307,621 taels (88,442*l.*). The chief increase is in iron, the import of which, including nail-rod and bar iron, more than doubled itself, namely, 50,000 piculs, against 20,000 piculs. Lead (8,421 piculs) shows a slight increase; copper (7,768 piculs) and tin (157 piculs) a slight decrease; steel (7,066 piculs, against 12,521 piculs) a large decrease.

Opium.—The trade in this article has not flourished during the past year. The net import, indeed, was 200 chests larger in 1881 than in 1880. But the consumption has really been smaller; as at the beginning of 1880 there was a stock of nearly 1,000 chests in hand, and at the end of it hardly any, while at the beginning of 1881 there was hardly any in hand, and at the end of it about 800 chests. The net import of Malwa was 3,025 piculs in 1881, against 2,760 in 1880; Patna, 174, against 8; Persiau, 222 against 450; total, 3,421, against 3,218. In the winter of 1880–81, when the port was closed, Malwa went as high as 580 Tien-tsin taels per chest. At the opening of the river it stood at 525 Tien-tsin taels, and about May fell to 475 Tien-tsin taels. In July there were rumours that the *li-kin* on opium was to be increased immediately, and buyers were all anxious to purchase before this might take place. The price of Malwa then rose to 530 Tien-tsin taels; but it afterwards fell again and now stands at 485 Tien-tsin taels. At the beginning of the season Patna was at 460 Tien-tsin taels. It then fell to 432 Tien-tsin taels, rose to 492 Tien-tsin taels, and now is at 463 Tien-tsin taels. Persian, of good quality, varied between 445 and 400 Tien-tsin taels, at which latter figure it now stands.

Foreigners connected with opium at Tien-tsin do not look with any hopefulness on the prospects of the trade. They think that the foreign drug is being steadily superseded by the native. The Returns of trade for

the last ten years certainly show a gradual though not very rapid decrease in the annual import. Native opium from the north-east and from various western provinces has long found its way to Tien-tsin. But what particularly alarms importers is, that the cultivation is said to be rapidly extending in this province, and even in this neighbourhood. Opium is said to have been grown last year at Kaiping (the country of the coal mines near here), which exactly resembled Malwa in flavour, though its strength was not quite so great. In consistency it, of course, was very different. A correspondent writes from Tien-tsin to a Shanghai newspaper in December last, "and in this province, Chihli, the growth will indeed be great. There is no longer any restriction on the crop, and as it pays large profits—it is said six or eight times greater than can be got from cereals, or vegetables, or cotton, or seeds—farmers have no scruple about the industry." I have no means of verifying these or the many other reports I have heard; and rumours in China are notoriously untrustworthy. Still, where there is so much smoke there is probably some fire beneath. Certainly the policy of encouraging the growth of native opium does not agree with the published utterances of the Governor-General of this province, Li Hung-chang. But since the Chinese Government is really unable under present circumstances to keep out Indian opium by any other means, the most rudimentary ideas on political economy might teach it that the nation would be a gainer by consuming opium of its own production, and so saving the 6 or 8 millions sterling which it contributes annually to the Indian Exchequer. The Imperial Government has not yet adopted this policy of under-selling. Nor have we enough evidence to be able to say that the Governor-General Li has adopted it either. But the action regarding opium of many high officials in different parts of the Empire has plainly been influenced by the knowledge that in destroying native opium they were only making the way for more from India; and unless the Indian Government comes to some fiscal arrangement which will be agreeable to the Chinese Government, not merely to one which is accepted in despair of obtaining a better, I have not the slightest doubt that, before many years are past, throughout the whole Chinese Empire poppy cultivation will be carried on unchecked, and Indian opium will be superseded by native for general use, remaining merely a luxury for a small minority of wealthy persons.

Sundries.—These form a very miscellaneous list, and the majority of them are not worth much attention. I mention a few of the most important. Bicho de mar, or sea slug, reaches the large value of 102,770 taels (29,546*l.*). Colours and dyes have increased from 1,236 to 1,538 piculs. Their value for this year is given as 320,707 taels (92,204*l.*). Though the import has increased, the trade in these goods, I learn, has not been prosperous during the past year, a very large proportion of them still remaining in the importers' warehouses. This is said to be due partly to the death last spring of the Empress Dowager, which lessened the ordinary demand for bright coloured clothing. These dyes are aniline dyes imported from Hamburg. English dyes have no chance against them at all. Needles were imported to the amount of 459,000,000. This seems a large number; but it is small compared with the import of the preceding year, which was 1,010,000,000. The import of this article varies very much. The average for ten years past is about 750,000,000; but four years ago it fell to 272,000,000. The import of matches doubled, rising from 92,050 to 181,541 gross of boxes. Kerosine fell from 315,221 to 292,030 gallons.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

These, including the portion re-exported either by sea or to Russia overland, amounted to 11,717,019 taels (3,083,414*l.*), a decrease of 1,286,468 taels from the previous year. Net imports were 8,515,898 taels (2,448,322*l.*), a decrease of 424,307 taels. The largest article was tea of all kinds, to the value of 3,620,379 taels (1,040,859*l.*), most of which was as usual destined for Russia. Then sugar, brown, white, and candy, together valued at 1,360,460 taels (391,132*l.*); silk piece-goods, 1,286,715 taels (360,930*l.*); rice, belonging to the Chinese Government, 1,079,743 taels (310,426*l.*), belonging to private importers 966,050 taels (277,739*l.*). The import of tea for Russia shows a considerable decrease in value, though not in quantity, being 294,985 piculs, valued at 3,179,892 taels (914,219*l.*), against 296,869 piculs, valued at 4,055,310 taels, in 1880. It is said that in a few years tea from China will be sent to Siberia by the River Amoor, instead of across Mongolia from Tien-tsin to Kiachta, the latter route being unsatisfactory because of the great cost of the long land carriage, and the carelessness and dishonesty of the Chinese or Mongols in charge of the caravans. The Russian firms established at Tien-tsin will, I imagine, be the greatest losers by the change. The steamers' Companies trading here and the owners of land in the foreign settlements will also suffer to some extent:

EXPORTS.

The export trade of Tien-tsin is of small value compared with the import trade, the former in a few years amounting to one-tenth of the value of the latter, in spite of the spirited efforts of foreign and native merchants to find articles for which there may be a demand in other countries or other parts of China. The list of exports destined for foreign countries is a pretty long one; but many of the articles are procurable in but very small quantities. Thus, feathers, horse hair; yak's hair, yak's tails, goat skins, sheep skins, lamb skins, were all exported to the value of a few hundred pounds each, and bristles, curiosities, hides, musk, rhubarb, silk, embroidery, to values varying from 1,000*l.* to 5,000*l.* The three chief articles sent to foreign countries are wool, goat skin, rugs, and straw braid. Camel's wool shows a large falling off compared with the previous year, being only 9,767 piculs (value about 26,000*l.*), against 16,442 piculs in 1880. Goat's wool shows a still larger falling off, being 1,769 piculs (value 5,400*l.*), against 5,037 piculs. Sheep's wool has increased from 703 to 1,362 piculs (value 4,000*l.*). The small demand for camel's wool, the principal kind of the three, is said to be due partly to the dissatisfaction of purchasers in England at the condition in which the wool arrives there, 30 or 40 per cent of the contents of the bales consisting of dirt, but partly also to the more serious fact that articles manufactured of the wool are liable to decay: Goat skin rugs show a very large increase, 214,545 pieces against 125,328 pieces. These rugs, which are each made of two skins sewn together, are largely exported to the United States, and are there used for placing on the floors of railway carriages. Their export value is given as about 96 tael cents, or 5*s.* 2*d.* a-piece. Merchants look forward hopefully to a further and permanent increase in the export of this article, which is more than I can anticipate, as far as my own means of judging allow. Straw braid has decreased from 19,961 to 17,323 piculs. But owing to the fact that the more expensive kinds have been much less exported, and the cheaper kinds much more largely, the fall in the value is much greater than the fall in the quantity of the

export, namely, from 611,862 taels to 439,112 taels (126,214*l.*). The cheap kind most in demand was "mottled," coming principally from the Province of Honan. In spite of the falling off, the straw braid trade may still be considered flourishing, as it is both in quantity and in value far in excess of that of any previous year, except 1880.

SHIPPING.

During the year under review 435 vessels entered the port of Tien-tsin. Their registered tonnage amounted to 260,337 tons: 313 of them were steamers, of 222,422 tons, and 122 were sailing-vesels, of 37,915 tons. With one exception all entered with cargo; but 90 steamers and 82 sailing-vessels cleared outwards in ballast. British shipping consisted of 150 steamers, of 102,577 tons, and 66 sailing-ships, of 21,206 tons; total, 216 vessels, of 123,783 tons. It was thus in both numbers and tonnage as nearly as possible one-half of the whole. The remaining steamers, 163 in number, and of 119,845 tons, consisted of 158 Chinese and 5 other vessels. The non-British sailing-ships, 56 in number, and of 16,709 tons, were 33 German and 20 of other nationalities, American, French, Danish, Swedish, and Chinese. Turning to the Returns for 1880, I find that the entries were, British, 127 steamers and 56 sailing-vessels, in all 183; vessels of other nationalities, 163 and 61, in all 224. Therefore, while the entries of vessels of other countries have decreased by 1 for steamers and 5 for sailing-ships, British steamers and sailing-ships have increased by 23 and 10 respectively.

The shipping trade has been fairly profitable throughout the year. Steamer freights were low, but in consequence large quantities of cheap cargo, which could not have afforded to pay higher rates, have been imported or exported, thus in a great degree recouping the steamers for their low freights, and at the same time increasing the general total of the trade.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The coal mines opened at Kaiping near here have been mentioned in the Reports of my predecessors for the last year or two. It has been proved now beyond doubt that there is an ample supply of coal of good quality at Kaiping, but it still remains to be seen whether the mines can be worked so as to give a profit on the capital expended upon them. They will doubtless furnish all the coal required in Tien-tsin and its neighbourhood, and will supply the steamers visiting the port. But more than this must be done, if the undertaking is to become a commercial success; and it is still considered by outsiders an open question whether the coal can be placed on the Shanghai market at a cost which will enable it to compete with Japan and Formosa coal. The output up to the present has been insignificant, as it was not worth while to raise any large quantity till the means were provided for conveying it economically to Tien-tsin. In about a month from now a canal which is being dug in the neighbourhood of the mines will be completed, and the real business will commence immediately. Preparations are also being made for the establishment of iron works in connection with the coal mines. The success of these depends, as far as I can see, on one event, and that is the building of railroads in the north of China, as in any other case it is difficult to imagine what will become of the iron produced. Indeed, one feels inclined to hazard the opinion that the Company must have received some

private intimation on this head from the high authorities before it could have determined to enter upon this additional branch of work.*

I have another small mining enterprise in this part of the country to chronicle, which, unfortunately, has not proved a success. An attempt has been made during the past year to open a copper mine on the European system in the district of P'ing-ch'üan Chow, which lies in the mountains east of Jehol, and about 150 miles north-east from this port. The engineer was a young man, a British subject, though not of European parentage, who had received a certain amount of training in Europe and America. The capital forthcoming was only about 10,000*l.* for plant and working expenses. Unfortunately, the whole of the money was expended before any vein was reached which afforded a hope of profitable working. The capitalist refused to advance more funds, and demanded that a trial should be made with such ore as had already been raised. Smelting, therefore, was attempted, and copper was indeed obtained, but in too small a quantity to pay the cost of smelting. The capitalist then closed the mine at once in disgust. The failure of the undertaking is to be regretted, as being likely to cause prejudice against foreign methods and appliances for the future.

In concluding this Report—though the matter is not directly concerned with local trade—I may mention the arrival just before the end of last season of two new men-of-war supplied to the Chinese Government by Sir W. Armstrong, and built in the yard of Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co. at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. A description of the vessels was published in a Shanghai newspaper, from which I have taken the following particulars :

The two vessels are sister ships; they are built of Siemen's Landore steel; and they are 220 feet in length over all, 31 feet in breadth, 17 feet in depth of hold; tonnage (builder's measurement), 975; net, 544. They have two pairs of two-cylindred compound engines, and carry coal for twenty-eight days' consumption at 9 knots speed. Each vessel carries two 25-ton breech-loading guns of 10 inch calibre, mounted on a central pivot turn-table and hydraulic carriage; also four breech-loading 40-pounders. At 3,000 yards shell from the large guns will pierce iron armour 13·8 inches thick. The vessels are also armed with rams. They possess great speed, and turn or stop with extraordinary quickness. They are said to give much satisfaction to their purchasers, and undoubtedly they do great credit both to their builders and to the distinguished firm which designed them.

* Since the above was written, I have learnt with much regret that much of the work going on at these mines has been stopped temporarily. The eastern tombs of the reigning dynasty are situated about sixty miles from Kaiping. A high official at Peking has memorialized the throne to the effect that the deep shaft dug at the mines, acting through the veins of the earth, will have a deleterious effect on the tombs. The Governor-General Li has been ordered to make inquiry and report; and in the meantime work has partially ceased. The Governor-General is placed in a difficult position. Either he must throw over a Company which has been formed with his direct sanction and encouragement, and which has laid out a very large quantity of capital, or he must take upon himself to declare the mines harmless, with the knowledge that he will then be considered responsible for any bodily ailment or other ill which may befall the Emperor or his family. For injury done to ancestral tombs is held in China to react upon the living members of a family. That mines should by means of the earth veins (or "dragon's veins" as they are called) affect tombs at a considerable distance, is quite in accordance with Chinese geomantic superstition; but the action taken by the high official at Peking may nevertheless be ascribed to political motives rather than zeal for the Emperor's health.

I append comparative Tables of the principal imports and exports at Tien-tsin during the past three years.

(Signed)

T. L. BULLOCK,
Acting Consul.

Tien-tsin, February 28, 1882.

COMPARATIVE Table of the Principal Imports at Tien-tsin from 1879 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Opium—				
Malwa	Piculs	4,189 48	2,760 70	3,094 06
Patua	"	373 20	8 40	174 00
Benares	"	66 00	...	...
Persian	"	553 00	450 00	323 00
Prepared	"	64 71	...	...
Cotton goods—				
Shirts, grey	Pieces	1,218,685	975,075	1,115,598
" white	"	443,067	421,881	536,689
" dyed and brocaded	"	23,674	13,694	5,776
" white	"	2,589	...	...
Prints, chintzes, and furnitures	"	61,957	58,704	61,144
Turkey red cambrics	"	121,051	119,011	156,663
Drills, English	"	145,780	91,165	166,788
" Dutch	"	88,890	49,300	2,840
" American	"	259,380	114,780	190,353
Sheetings, English	"	36,445	33,951	39,375
" American	"	409,042	355,332	368,977
T-cloths	"	570,787	494,130	613,715
Damasks, cotton	"	2,538	859	1,519
Jeans and twills	"	118,118	121,979	152,403
Dimities	"	1,900	...	1,130
Muslins	"	14,868	10,958	16,587
Velvets and velveteens	"	845	2,730	3,244
Handkerchiefs, cotton	Dozens	21 152	13,752	30,360
Woolen goods—				
Spanish stripes, inferior	Pieces	6,435	6,632	8,173
Long ells	"	2,260	1,561	2,110
Camlets, English	"	9,060	6,570	8,142
" Dutch	"	130	540	210
" imitation ... ..	"	...	...	...
" imitation	"	11,943	12,382	12,458
" crape ... ..	"	...	...	540
Lustres and orleans	"	37,215	14,358	18,390
Woolen and cotton mixtures ... ..	"	...	...	...
Broadcloth	"	50	...	818
Metals—				
Lead, in pigs	Piculs	12,049 90	8,046 86	8,421 63
Quicksilver	"	289 85	67 18	189 47
Steel, native and foreign	"	6,066 73	12,521 37	7,066 51
Iron	"	...	7,549 55	18,339 60
" nail-rod and bar	"	15,559 96	12,476 29	31,550 79
Tin	"	975 09	189 66	157 05
Copper, native and foreign	"	6,380 56	8,357 74	7,768 04
Sundries—				
Cotton, raw	"	11,736 06	3,973 68	377 20
Matches	Gross	89,480	92,050	181,541
Needles	Mille	874,150	1,010,234	449,790
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs	28,910 68	27,195 20	26,016 96
" 2nd	"	84,898 62	63,497 29	53,641 41
Seaweed, Japan	"	30,011 58	28,169 53	37,325 63
" Russian	"	12,471 58	...	...
Sugar, brown	"	176,444 49	206,643 65	179,517 37
" white	"	99,375 91	163,913 10	123,016 03
" candy	"	16,989 13	30,355 74	25,162 65
Silk piece-goods	"	1,610 15	1,333 68	1,286 71
" ribbons	"	924 58	635 26	787 19
" embroidery	"	43 76	48 77	26 25
" thread	"	24 93	20 87	28 85
" and cotton mixtures	"	57 36	38 17	176 54
Tea, black	"	3,769 50	6,498 30	1,265 07
" green	"	6,326 28	6,967 84	6,924 75
" dust	"	1,193 49	1,965 48	1,623 30
" coarse (Japan)	"	4,831 02	5,014 96	4,056 97
Window-glass	Boxes	10,804	10,831	8,906

COMPARATIVE Table of the Principal Exports at Tien-tsin from 1879 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Braid, straw	Piculs ...	10,978 39	19,961 96	17,828 81
Dates, black	" ...	25,741 83	14,271 64	22,901 89
" red	" ...	90,900 88	82,991 95	96,918 71
Horns, deer, young	Pairs ...	4,406	5,119	8,696
Beaus	Piculs ...	49 72	...	13,802 26
Rhubarb	" ...	246 13	700 24	1,094 75
Tobacco	" ...	693 62	531 20	579 59
Wool, camel's	" ...	9,602 58	16,442 46	9,772 31
" sheep's	" ...	142 86	708 81	1,263 61
Tea, black, for Russia	" ...	132,098 09	77,212 84	74,171 40
" brick "	" ...	269,937 09	219,271 87	220,771 65

WENCHOW.

Report on the Trade of Wenchow during the Year 1881.

THE trade of this port during the above period shows few features worthy of comment. The following Tables, deduced from those of the Imperial Maritime Customs, through the courtesy of the Commissioner, show an average increase of 22 per cent. on the previous year of those imports that were brought by craft whose cargoes pass through the foreign Customs, while the exports show a diminution of 26 per cent. on the same period. It is impossible to ascertain how much of the increase is merely transference from purely native bottoms.

IMPORTS.

Opium—					Piculs.
1878	..	..	..	..	13 80
1879	..	..	..	..	60 60
1880	..	..	..	..	54 00
1881	..	..	..	..	189 80

				1881.		Percentage on Average of the 3 previous Years.		Percentage on 1880.	
						In-crease.	De-crease.	In-crease.	De-crease.
						Per ct.	Per ct.	Per ct.	Per ct.
Cotton goods	..	..	Piculs	..	80,826	10	..	..	..
Handkerchiefs	..	..	Dozens	..	1,620	40	..	..	..
Woollen goods	..	..	Pieces	..	6,243	19	..	..	..
Metals—									
Copper (Japanese)	..	..	Piculs	..	412	46	..	..	..
Iron, nail rod	..	..	"	..	4,236	100	..	..	..
" wire	..	..	"	..	36	5	..	..	..
Lead, in pigs	..	..	"	..	280	60	..	..	..
Steel	..	..	"	..	76	300	..	..	..
Sundries—									
Beans	..	..	"	..	1,221	..	..	..	20
Bêche-de-mer, black	..	..	"	..	26	..	20	..	..
" white	..	..	"	..	128	30	..	..	..
Dates, black	..	..	"	..	429	39	..	..	..
" red	..	..	"	..	773	95	..	..	..
Fungus	..	..	"	..	410	60	..	..	..
Window glass	..	..	Sq. feet	..	26,300	30	..	..	..
Lily flowers	..	..	Piculs	..	1,442	30	..	..	..
Matches	..	..	Gross	..	14,150	..	..	..	20
Medicines	..	..	Piculs	..	969	160	..	..	..
Nankeens	..	..	"	..	624	108	..	..	..
Kerosene oil	..	..	Gallons	..	40,000	37	..	..	..
Pepper, black	..	..	Piculs	..	51	12	..	..	..
Rattans	..	..	"	..	492	33	..	..	..
Sappanwood	..	..	"	..	284	50	..	..	..
Seaweed	..	..	"	..	3,881	25	..	..	..
Sugar, white	..	..	"	..	156	..	..	..	100
Tobacco	..	..	"	..	387	110	..	..	..
Varnish	..	..	"	..	87	..	20	..	..
Vermicelli	..	..	"	..	207	..	..	..	35
Vermillion	..	..	"	..	14 44	..	..	140	..
Walnuts	..	..	"	..	191	165	..	..	..
Wax, white	..	..	"	..	98	160	..	..	..
Total value	..	..	..	..	..	55	..	22	..

EXPORTS.

					Percentage on 1880.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
					Per cent.	Per cent.
Bamboo shoots	..	..	Piculs	1,545	..	110
Charcoal	..	..	"	12,848	75	..
Coir	..	..	"	1,672	45	..
Oranges	..	..	"	9,877	33	..
Cow hides	..	..	"	75	150	..
Kitty sols	..	..	Pieces	21,095	..	2½
Medicines	..	..	Piculs	2,870	14	..
Gum resin	..	..	"	795	(30 on 1879)	..
Sea blubber	..	..	"	864	(First year)	..
Tea, fired	..	..	"	699	..	70
.. unfired	..	..	"	619	..	66
Poles, fir	..	..	"	25,888	15	..
Tobacco leaf	..	..	"	959	..	45
Total value	..	..	..	..	..	26
Treasure (206,500 <i>l.</i>)	..	..	..	..	..	2½

IMPORTS.

Opium.—The local crop was a partial failure in this district during 1880-81, hence the reason, to some extent, of the increase in the import. A further influence was in the reduction of the *li-kin* impost to 28 taels per chest, which is, I believe, 5 or 5 taels below the rate at Ningpo. The farmer of this tax had been forced to pay for 1881 the sum of 2,500 taels, an advance of 500 taels on the previous year, and he at once lowered the rate as above stated. The 189-80 piculs entered through the foreign Customs would give him 3,948 taels, and 35 piculs more brought by junks would yield 980 taels—total, 4,928 taels—a gross profit of nearly cent. per cent. It may well be that the Government might not net a better proportion if the tax were collected by officials.

Other Imports.—The Table shows at a glance the comparison with previous years. Where the average of the three years 1878-80 would be misleading, on account of a nil importation in any one of them, the percentage on 1880 alone is shown.

EXPORTS.

These show a decrease in value, referable chiefly to tea. The amount of leaf available for experimental shipments over and above what is taken by the known native markets, does not seem large enough to attract the attention of foreign buyers at Shanghai. The article is, however, a sound one, and I procure in the market for 1 dollar from 20 lbs. to 25 lbs. of the usual quality for my own consumption—a cheaper rate than I have ever met with elsewhere.

TRANSIT PASSES.

Inwards.—Of these 720 were issued, covering 5,000*l.* worth of goods as against 380, value 3,500*l.*, in 1880. T-cloths formed 40 per cent.; grey shirtings 19 per cent.; nail rod-iron 8 per cent.; and seaweed 20 per cent. of that total.

The proportion of the several items leaving the place so covered to the amount entering, is one to eight on an average.

These passes are issued to Chinese, but subject to the condition that they do not exempt the goods from the local *li-kia* tax. This proviso could scarcely have been insisted upon had there been a foreign merchant established here at the opening of the port, and of course it will vanish should one ever come to open a business. In the meantime, the Chinese merchants acquiesce in the arrangement as on the whole a gain to them.

Outwards.—In the event of a foreign merchant settling here he would find that, at present rates of levy, there would be a happy accord between himself and the barrier officials on the route for teas from the local districts, as to the inexpediency of displaying these signals for combat; nothing would be saved by their use.

TREASURE.

Silver, 206,500*l.*, and copper cash 5,300*l.* were sent to Shanghai and Ningpo. This is, roughly, 113,000*l.* more than the balance of trade, as evidenced by Imperial Maritime Customs. The native trade is an unknown quantity, and it is perilous to follow natives in their dealings with figures. Taking, however, these uncertain guides, who give native junk imports at 424,000*l.*, and exports at 112,000*l.*, the balance of trade, as shown by the treasure movements known to the foreign Customs, is more than accounted for.

It is not obvious where this drain is fed from. It would seem as if the area which takes and pays for all these imports, found it cheaper to pay down that silver for them which it gets by sending its products out by other routes. It is somewhat of a paradox, but I can suggest no better. The fisheries outside are worked by Foochow men, who take their nettings down there while they pay for their necessities off the port. That is but a small instance in which the paradox is true; but what of the inland regions? If this is the natural inlet for their wants, it is the natural outlet for their produce. I leave the problem unsolved. It suggests that the native banking fraternity are but feebly alive to their opportunities in this region in allowing all this bullion to "eat its head off" in perpetual travelling expenses and waste of time on the route.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The port was visited by three typhoons during the summer season, otherwise there has been nothing noteworthy in the weather.

The Chinese officials, in the few cases I have called for their action, have been most cordially anxious to give satisfaction. This pleasant feature is due to an important service which my predecessor, Mr. Everard, was able to render them in a troublesome affair, and which is often referred to by them with gratitude.

The Hospital opened by the China Inland Mission continues its useful course. Upwards of 4,000 attendances by general patients are recorded, and, further, more than 200 were at least temporarily cured of their craving for opium.

(Signed)

W. GAVIN STRONACH, *Consul*.

CHINA. No. 2 (1882).
(TRADE REPORTS.)

COMMERCIAL REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS

IN

C H I N A :

1881.

PART II.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
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1882.

SHANGHAE.

Report on the Trade of Shanghai during the Year 1881.

THE Returns annexed to this Report are the following :—

1. Tabular Statement of Foreign Imports and Re-exports.
2. Summary of Foreign Imports and Re-exports.
3. Tabular Statement of Native Imports and Re-exports.
4. Summary of Native Imports and Re-exports.
5. Opium Return.
6. Tabular Statement of Native Exports and Re-exports.
7. Summary of Native Exports and Re-exports.
8. Tea Return.
9. Silk Return.
10. Transit Trade Return.
11. Summary of Gross and Net Value of Trade, 1879–1881.
12. Share taken at Shanghai by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade and the Transit Trade.

A glance at the appended Table (No. 11) of the gross and net values of the trade gives the following results : In foreign goods imported there is a notable increase, and the amount retained for local consumption was larger than in any previous year. The re-exports to Chinese ports were also above the average, so that the import trade shows an increase both locally and in that part of it which passes through Shanghai to supply the ports of Northern and Central China. The trade in native imports also exceeded that of previous years. But in exports there was a falling off as compared with 1879 and 1880, not, however, to such an extent as to affect the general results of the comparison.

Taking the trade as a whole, and including that portion which merely passes through Shanghai, its value exceeded that of any previous year. There was a corresponding increase in the value of the trade of the port itself, so that the importance of Shanghai, both as a local mart and a centre of distribution, continues to increase.

The subjoined figures show the gross value for the past four years of that portion of the trade of Shanghai which is taken cognizance of by the Imperial Customs under foreign management. This is exclusive of the bulk of the trade in junks, of which no statistics are available. The amount of duties paid to the Chinese Government is also given :—

				Trade.	Duties paid at Shanghai.
				Haikuan taels.	Haikuan taels.
1878	..	..	..	110,956,274	3,500,610
1879	..	..	..	131,474,499	4,018,128
1880	..	..	..	134,916,213	4,220,721
1881	..	..	..	141,291,357	4,373,940

The average value of the Haikuan tael during 1881 was 5s. 6½d.
 What proportion of this trade is in our hands will be seen by the
 [1571]

following percentages extracted from a Table given in the Customs Returns:—

				Foreign Trade.	Coast Trade.	Total Foreign and Coast.
British	..	..	..	68·30	53·74	60·34
American	..	..	..	1·68	0·48	1·02
German	..	..	..	2·59	1·06	1·75
French	..	..	..	3·39	0·38	8·02
Japanese	..	..	..	8·56	..	3·88
Chinese	..	..	..	1·44	43·95	24·62
All others	..	..	..	14·04	0·39	0·37
Total	..	..	..	100·00	100·00	100·00

IMPORTS.

*Cotton Goods.**—The trade during the year 1881 was satisfactory. The imports and deliveries of the principal staples were above the average, as shown by the following comparative Table:—

	Imports.			Deliveries.		
	1881.	1880.	1879.	1881.	1880.	1879.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Grey shirtings	5,768,640	4,961,984	5,802,092	5,315,630	5,174,509	5,921,737
T-cloths	2,333,633	3,167,273	1,913,869	2,121,748	2,364,559	2,331,753
White shirtings	1,760,056	1,200,040	966,472	1,313,681	1,016,078	926,970
Drills, all kinds	1,200,102	935,654	1,012,401	1,066,336	806,568	1,126,142
Jeans	166,392	388,204	154,681	921,629	224,529	215,334
Shootings	792,099	873,139	704,483	749,699	731,567	729,338
Shirtings, dyed, brocaded, &c.	103,466	110,525	88,432	151,263	92,475	93,699
Damasks, dyed	15,038	12,716	6,390	12,915	11,935	13,866
Chintzes	152,190	209,329	185,810	135,547	147,656	172,021
Printed twills	174,347	127,655	104,763	149,099	99,712	61,781
Turkey red shirtings	430,234	285,253	243,620	377,921	270,766	287,972
Velvets and velveteens	83,060	86,602	47,503	74,912	69,085	73,460
Handkerchiefs	504,363	341,640	303,841	291,214	257,081	246,597
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Muslins	176,838	251,290	137,544	173,157	149,900	116,401
Spanish stripes	60,459	63,427	52,990	51,230	49,265	49,023
Medium and broad cloths	39,463	48,216	26,223	38,875	37,966	41,033
Camlets	165,075	115,109	108,714	141,141	107,397	110,447
Long ells	97,079	98,755	120,334	100,975	88,341	119,943
Lastings	115,327	71,763	63,328	91,129	66,838	67,631
Crape lastings	1,859	14,134	9,622	7,712	6,022	8,668
Cotton lastings	104,991	91,351	65,033	96,416	69,855	63,443
Lustres, plain, figured, and crape	164,617	250,024	208,485	183,529	162,053	212,356
Cotton yarn	23,025	22,676	14,608	20,997	17,941	12,909

The following Table shows the manner in which these goods were distributed during the past year:—

* For information on this subject and on woollens I am chiefly indebted to the "Annual Retrospect" published by Mr. P. Maclean, to which and to other trade circulars reference will be made, no doubt, by all interested in fuller details than can be supplied in this sketch.

	Kingpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chetoo.	Tien-tsin.	Nanchang.	Pootow.	Japan.	Sandies.	Local.	Total.
Grey shirtings	833,179	35,890	688,044	53,940	901,647	1,779,765	913,886	1,37,496	74,433	19,870	350,340	6,950	438,340	5,815,680
T-cloths	137,610	37,315	111,235	84,245	96,980	460,113	935,896	619,483	118,460	88,083	92,400	78,161	167,065	9,191,748
White shirtings	84,468	9,480	73,908	6,510	18,348	469,459	84,840	544,039	16,600	9,970	23,458	13,711	60,908	1,313,661
Drills, English and Dutch	12,635	2,460	83,055	3,780	19,410	199,194	30,390	916,109	49,775	1,945	52,065	10,594	3,770	697,060
" American	6,336	1,760	19,100	1,770	795	61,610	41,108	183,141	135,640	705	9,783	4,975	13,660	469,356
Jeans, all kinds	31,100	90	3,665	3,390	580	33,605	18,435	117,684	1,340	430	680	2,974	3,790	231,639
Sheetings, all kinds	4,965	...	23,540	16,180	7,205	130,870	74,970	415,984	56,585	50	180	360	18,640	749,699
Shirtings, gent., white, dyed	45,711	430	27,073	1,449	4,990	19,884	15,508	33,333	9,333	1,199	2,388	1,440	6,650	151,973
Damasks	...	...	2,993	160	...	7,317	603	1,440	160	...	...	5	840	13,916
Chintzes	4,359	80	7,893	673	3,998	97,380	11,516	63,608	5,091	1,370	...	8,394	17,470	135,487
Printed twills	2,888	390	16,991	813	1,535	54,771	10,033	46,543	7,019	9,940	260	200	6,976	149,088
Turkey red shirtings	7,084	3,402	44,987	339	1,040	39,685	78,437	160,914	21,363	9,873	13,606	7,939	7,973	877,931
Velvets and velveteens	2,153	...	4,650	1,686	3,357	39,399	9,594	9,670	4,763	953	15,448	1,910	5,964	74,913
Huckkerchiefs	5,364	1,240	37,538	17,440	23,840	93,980	3,630	94,915	17,316	2,940	8,370	7,011	83,560	291,314
Muslins, lawns, &c.	1,037	...	8,444	134	515	15,457	3,176	14,889	3,900	5,045	119,748	1,369	11,100	173,197
Spanish stripes	3,326	793	5,888	756	5,840	14,475	3,176	7,988	790	1,639	9,139	753	6,364	51,390
Medium and broad cloths	1,039	240	3,790	498	1,537	39,109	1,409	8,033	698	834	186	487	4,744	33,875
Camlets	2,430	1,848	9,700	3,470	11,513	90,431	1,596	8,780	3,960	7,390	1,510	3,746	8,550	149,141
Long ella	4,770	660	9,300	3,640	9,760	61,480	430	3,185	1,540	1,030	3,830	940	6,340	100,375
Loadings	1,573	430	1,331	608	3,969	46,657	9,730	13,600	13,718	1,460	1,390	976	1,560	81,190
" crape	30	...	1,231	...	60	5,434	1,300	1,249	9,383	175	20	60	960	7,713
" cotton	1,330	480	4,086	53	368	5,434	27,333	47,791	9,383	175	40	69	40	96,416
Lustres: plain, figured, and crape	5,394	960	29,854	969	3,663	68,657	16,330	19,894	5,660	1,430	23,581	1,614	13,690	188,589

It will be seen from the above that Hankow is the largest customer for grey shirtings; that Tien-tsin comes next, and takes more T-cloths, drills, and sheetings than Hankow; but that the largest consumer of woollen goods is not the northern port, where furs of all kinds are more in requisition than woollens, but the country about Hankow, where the winter is not so severe.

It is stated in Mr. Maclean's "Retrospect" that there has been much trouble in consequence of the prevalence of mildew in cotton goods, and it is implied that the defect is caused by undue sizing. As sized cotton goods have certain uses, some American officials have been lately recommending their countrymen to follow in the footsteps of Manchester. On the policy of this advice it is not my province to offer an opinion. I may, however, be pardoned for suggesting that undue sizing should be the exception, and not, as it would seem to be, the rule, and that heavily-sized goods should be designated by a specific name, so that no one concerned in any capacity, intermediary or otherwise, could plead ignorance as to the nature of the article for which he has contracted.

Speaking of drills, the authority above mentioned says:—"The American manufacturers are to be congratulated on the steady manner in which they have abstained from reducing the cost of their productions by the introduction of sizing into the cloths, and it is becoming more and more evident that the English maker will have to follow their example if he means to keep in the field."

On the other hand, a Manchester firm, writing under date of the 30th November last, states:—"That heavily-sized drills have certainly been sent to China, but it was to meet the demand made for this class of article by the Chinese themselves, who could not expect to purchase cloth at the same price as filling, and who knew perfectly well what it was they were buying. None of these heavily-sized goods have been sent for some time, their place having been taken by the pure drill. . . . English drills are once more gaining their proper position in the China market, a position they would never have lost had it not been for the Chinese merchants themselves."

It is to be hoped that the view taken by the Manchester merchant, whose letter I quote, is correct, and that the Chinese merchants may not again succeed in tempting us to damage our position and injure our prospects in the markets of the East.

The following remarks bearing on this subject, extracted from a local journal, may prove interesting:—

"We have little doubt that, except for those uses in which sized goods do as well as the more honestly made, the consumption of the latter classes of grey cottons will go on increasing year by year while China continues as prosperous as she has been for some time past. The people have more money to spend, and are spending it in their own fashion. They are buying better materials, and it is our belief they will continue to do so while their country enjoys peace and plenty. If English merchants who import cotton goods do not meet this changed state of affairs, they will certainly lose their market in China; but we have every faith that their own interests will lead them to supply a better class of goods now that these are coming into greater demand."

Woollens.—Although the trade did not altogether fulfil the expectations which were entertained at the beginning of the year, yet the deliveries of all kinds exceeded those of last year. The rates ruling at the auction sales were unsatisfactory to importers, but as the supply was so large, sellers had to be contented with moderate prices. The monthly quotations show that the price of camlets, Spanish stripes, long ells, and lastings gradually declined throughout the year, while the quotations for

medium and broad cloths were the same in December as they were in January.

Opium.—The comparative Table of the import of opium appended to this Report shows an increase in the import of all kinds of Indian opium during the past year as compared with 1880. There was a falling off in the import of Persian opium, but on the whole the total import was above the average. This circumstance was partly due to increased consumption, and partly to speculation consequent on a report that the taxation of opium was about to be increased. An Imperial Decree was, in fact, published in June directing the provincial authorities to report upon a proposal of his Excellency Tso-tsung-t'ang to raise the present fixed duty and variable *li-kin* on foreign opium to an uniform total charge of 150 taels a picul. Exaggerated reports of Tso's influence led the dealers to believe that his recommendation would be promptly carried into effect. Large purchases were at once made, but as the scheme proposed met with obstacles, speculators incurred serious loss. Tso's proposal had been referred to the Governors-General and other high officials, who were directed to state their views. In a semi-official newspaper published here on the 24th September, it was announced that some of these functionaries suggested that, in accordance with a proposal which had been previously made, the duty should be raised to 60 taels. Others recommended a total collection (duty and *li-kin*) of 80 taels; others an uniform inland tax or *li-kin* of 35 taels, and others double the existing rate.

The newspaper pointed out that, unlike the import duty, which is uniform, the *li-kin* varies in amount, the highest rate being at Amoy, where it is 83.16 taels per picul; the lowest at Ichang, where it is 9 taels, the average rate prevailing at the ports being 35.27 taels per picul.

Offers had been made to farm the whole of the opium revenue, but nothing had been decided. The publication of this information, showing that the Peking Government intended to proceed with deliberation, had the effect of quieting the opium market. A part of Tso's proposed scheme, which coming from him caused surprise, was the formal imposition under Imperial sanction of an *ad valorem* duty on native opium. This was understood to mean that the nominal restrictions on the cultivation of native opium were to be withdrawn, and that, as I believe, is the rule at present in the case of *li-kin* generally, and of the Customs export duty at Hankow—the tax on the native drug should be everywhere only one-half the amount of that levied on foreign opium. This scheme, if fully carried out, taken in connection with the insertion by the Peking Government in recently-made Treaties of clauses prohibiting the introduction of opium by sea, simply means the encouragement of native as opposed to foreign-grown opium. It must of course lead to a wide extension of the practice of opium smoking, as it will vastly increase the facilities, while lessening the expense of that indulgence. As yet, however, except at a few of the ports near to places where the poppy is very extensively cultivated, the native product has affected but slightly the import of the Indian drug. In fact, the import to Shanghai in 1881, and indeed to China generally, has been above the average, and this, too, despite the increasing popularity of native opium. It is interesting to notice that, while on the one hand, India is becoming so formidable a rival of China in the production of tea, that some predict Europe will in time draw the larger portion of its supply from India, on the other hand, China is sustaining a still more successful competition with India in the production of opium; and the prediction is often heard that Indian opium will be at no distant period driven out of the China market.

Indian opium is, however, chiefly destined for exportation; China opium for home consumption. Naturally, therefore, the latter would, under

ordinary circumstances, have the advantage over its foreign rival, and obtain in time the monopoly of the home market. This result has already been secured in Western China, where Indian opium is no longer seen. That the native drug is making its way in Eastern China is evident from the following Table, showing the amount of Szechuan opium carried in vessels of foreign build from Hankow, and reported to the Customs at this port:—

Imported in—						Pic. c.
1871	..	..	..	..	..	11 58
1872	..	..	..	..	..	310 39
1873	..	..	..	..	..	148 70
1874	..	..	..	..	..	75 17
1875	..	..	..	..	..	891 35
1876	..	..	..	..	..	1,600 45
1877	..	..	..	..	..	1,079 54
1878	..	..	..	..	..	798 09
1879	..	..	..	..	..	117 44
1880	..	..	..	..	..	718 36
1881	..	..	..	..	..	2,402 82

The following extracts are from a Report on the opium market for 1881, kindly furnished by one of the leading firms engaged in the trade:—

Mahwa.—The prices fluctuated a good deal during the year under review. In the month of January new drug was quoted at 560·05 taels, old at 570·05 taels, and prices gradually receded until the end of May to 504·47 taels for new drug, according to quality, and 530 40 taels for old. At this time it was reported amongst the natives that the duty on Indian opium was to be increased to 150 taels per picul, and a strong speculative demand set in, which forced rates up to 556 taels for new and 590 taels for old. During the month of July the dealers in all the provinces read in the Chinese papers of the intended increase of duty, and believing in the report bought largely and over-stocked themselves. The chief impetus to this rise in price came from Tien-tsin, where the report of the intended increase of duty was first circulated. The Chinese, however, soon lost faith in the report, the market therefore became inanimate, and rates declined to 500·49 taels for new and 525 taels for old, with an accumulated stock and a dull market.

As anticipated in last year's Report, the native crop proved larger than usual, owing to the greater extent of ground which was planted with the poppy all over China, and to the increased attention which was paid to the cultivation of the native drug, the quality of which has much improved. Its comparative cheapness induces a greater consumption, and the taste for it is being largely acquired.

It is clear that Indian opium is seriously threatened by the competition of the native-grown drug, and there is but little doubt that the trade in the former will have nearly died out when a new generation of smokers shall have learnt to appreciate the cheapness of the native product.

There is no doubt that the consumption of opium of all descriptions increases from year to year. The import of Persian opium, for instance, which ten years ago arrived in very small quantities for the consumption of the northern ports of China, has this year increased to 1,364 piculs; but the native-grown opium improves so rapidly, both in quality and quantity, that it will not be surprising to find in a short time that it seriously interferes with the Indian drug, and altogether puts a stop to the importation of Persian opium. The heavy *li-kia* tax in China on the one hand, and the export tariff in India on the other, so cripple the trade in the Indian drug, that only those merchants who are more closely con-

nected with India, and whose charges are reduced to the lowest limit, are able to retain their position in the trade.

In the Provinces of Szechuan, Yünnan, Shanse, Shense, Kansuh, and Kueichow, the Indian drug is almost driven out, and little or none is now sent to these places, the consumption being exclusively supplied by the home-grown product.

Newchwang, which used at one time to import about 3,000 piculs of Indian opium, only imported 358 piculs during 1881. The time is not far off when it will export and largely supply other ports with native opium.

Chefoo and *Tien-tsin* are also slowly following the example of *Newchwang*, and the import of the Indian drug has decreased 15 per cent. during the past year.

Patna began at 475 taels in January, and gradually declined to 415 taels in May. The short weight of this drug is greatly complained of; a difference of from 8 to 10 catties per chest between the early and late arrivals in summer is far too much, and greatly conduces to the loss of confidence of the Chinese dealers in it, whilst the importers have to face the discrepancy, by selling the opium comparatively cheaply, and experience no small difficulty in inducing the Chinese to purchase it. An effectual and early remedy should be applied to this serious complaint. On the report of the anticipated increase of duty becoming known extensive speculative operations took place, and rates advanced to 495 taels in August, but afterwards receded to 448 taels in December with a declining market.

Benares fluctuated in the same ratio as *Patna*, but speculation therein was not indulged in to such an extent. The native opium, as far as can be seen, does not very much affect the consumption of the Bengal drug, since, owing to its strong smell, it is used to a great extent in mixing with the native staple to take the place of *Malwa*.

Pernian in January was quoted at 440 taels per picul, and a steady trade was being done in this description; but now, owing to the decline in rates both of the Indian and native drug it has suffered immensely, and is neglected everywhere, even at 350 taels per picul, the Chinese preferring their home-grown opium to the Persian drug.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

The following is a comparative Table of the principal miscellaneous imports into Shanghai during 1880 and 1881 :—

				1880.	1881.
Coal, foreign and native	..	Tons	..	204,838	236,808
Ginseng .. ..	..	Piculs	..	3,577	3,487
Hats, straw .. ..	..	Pieces	..	6,676,364	7,262,520
Hemp .. ..	..	Piculs	..	97,742	86,091
Matches .. ..	..	Gross	..	1,079,027	1,223,717
Medicines .. ..	..	Piculs	..	174,203	197,971
Needles .. ..	..	Mille	..	1,060,638	1,383,450
Oil, kerosine .. ..	..	Gallons	..	3,225,980	3,871,945
„ wood, bean, &c. .	..	Piculs	..	97,501	92,076
Paper .. ..	..	„	..	123,016	123,844
Sandal-wood .. ..	..	„	..	65,568	97,500
Sapan-wood .. ..	..	„	..	53,647	95,143
Seaweed and agar-agar	..	„	..	303,284	311,857
Silk, all sorts .. ..	..	„	..	15,685	19,534
„ piece-goods .. ..	..	„	..	3,843	3,631
Straw braid .. ..	..	„	..	50,803	50,067
Sugar .. ..	..	„	..	1,438,601	1,304,135
Tobacco .. ..	..	„	..	157,900	125,360
Metals—					
Copper .. ..	..	„	..	10,987	12,479
Iron .. ..	..	„	..	824,957	665,459
Lead .. ..	..	„	..	94,220	265,325
Tin .. ..	..	„	..	45,702	70,745
Steel .. ..	..	„	..	25,591	24,083
Machinery .. ..	..	Packages	..	738	1,772

EXPORTS.

Black Tea.—In a local review of the tea market, to which I am indebted for almost all the information on the subject of tea in this Report, it is observed that:—"The past tea season has been remarkable for two facts: the scarcity of, and consequent home demand for, fine tea, and the increased falling off, amounting in some cases to almost absolute abstention, in the consumption of common." The demand for fine tea was no doubt due to the circumstance that the Indian crop happened to be moderate. The price of common tea in London fell so low as hardly to cover the cost of freight, insurance, and packing. To judge from the statements of experts, fine tea is likely always to be in some demand, as large quantities are absorbed by Russia, and although India supplies London to a certain extent with a substitute, the yield of such teas in China seems to be limited.

Medium teas may also be expected to find a market, but at a considerable reduction in the prices formerly paid, and common teas are likely to be rejected.

The first and second crop black teas, including all the finest qualities, were, as usual, purchased at Hankow, and to a large extent shipped direct from that port. Buyers from Shanghai flocked to Hankow early in May, and details of the trade are doubtless given in the Hankow Consular Report.

In Shanghai business commenced in July with the second crop. The following shows the prices paid in Shanghai for second crop teas during the month of July of the past three years:—

				1881.			1880.			1879.		
				d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.
Ningchow	..	..	..	9½	to	1 6½	9½	to	1 5½	9½	to	1 6½
Keemen	..	..	..	11		1 3	11		1 4	11½		1 3½
Oopack	..	..	..	9		0 11	10½		1 0	9½		1 0
Hokow	..	..	..	9		1 2	9½		1 2	9		1 1½
Oanfa	..	..	..	9½		1 2½	10		1 2	9½		1 1½
Shuntam	..	..	..	7½		0 8	9		0 9½	9		0 9½

The following are the prices paid in September for third crop teas :—

				1881.			1880.			1879.		
				d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.
Ningchow	..	..	..	9	to	1 1½	9½	to	1 1	9	to	1 0½
Oopack	..	..	..	8½		0 10½	9½		0 11	8½		0 11½
Shuntam	..	..	..	7½		0 7½	8½		0 9	8½		0 9½

Green Tea.—The crop of 1881 and 1882 has been the largest known since 1874 and 1875, and the quality, though scarcely so poor as in black teas, has been decidedly below the average even of the last few seasons. Luckily, the Japan crop has been poor, and also 4,000,000 less than last year's total, and this has had some good effect on China greens. The losses to importers on early shipments of country teas, especially Teenkais, were very heavy, and though in September this caused Shanghai rates to fall to a moderate range, yet they soon hardened again, and with some slight lulls have since continued firm and with an advancing tendency.

The United States of America still continue to be the largest consumers of green tea, the quantity sent thither during the past season being 20,388,000 lbs., out of a total exported from all China of 27,851,000 lbs.

The following Table shows the average price of green tea for the past three years :—

				1881-82.		1880-81.		1879-80.	
				Taels.		Taels.		Taels.	
Moyune—									
Fine to choicest	..	..	..	24	to 31	23	to 33	28	to 40
Good medium	..	..	..	23	28	22	29	24	36
Teen kai—									
Fine to choicest	..	..	..	25	35½	23½	35	26	40
Good medium	..	..	..	22	28	23	30	23	36
Fychow—									
Good to fine	..	..	..	21	27	20	30	20	30
Pingsuey—									
Fine to choice	..	..	..	25	32	23	34	26	40
Good medium	..	..	..	21	27	20	29	20	30
Common country chops	..	..	..	16	21	16	22	16	29
Common Pingsuey chops	..	..	..	13	18	14	20	14	26

Silk.—The silk season, 1st June, 1881, to 31st May, 1882, will probably be long remembered in connection with a circumstance of an exceptional character by which it was distinguished. The market was to a large extent controlled by a Chinese speculator, who, calculating on the

consequences of a reported deficiency in the crops, both in China and in Italy, acquired and held throughout the season 10,000 bales. The reports proved to be exaggerated, and although speculation upon so large a scale forced up prices, the supply of silk exceeded the demand, and at the close of the season the daring operator was left with the bulk of his stock still on hand. This result was no doubt due in part to the comparative cheapness of European silk and to the financial troubles in France.

The following brief account of the course of the Shanghai market is given by a firm engaged in the trade:—

“The first purchase of new silk was made on the 11th June at a cost to sell of 16*s.* per lb. for No. 4 Tsatlee, the quotation in London at that time being 15*s.* 6*d.*, but during the next week prices were run up to the parity of 18*s.* for this grade, a report of a deficiency in the Italian crop being the cause of the excitement. This report proving to be exaggerated, prices quickly declined 1*s.* per lb., but at this point Chinese speculators stepped in, and by their purchases forced values up to 20*s.*, a figure which was reached in October. It is estimated that at one time speculators held 15,000 bales, representing a lock-up of some 5,000,000 taels. Foreign markets responded but slowly to the advance, the highest point reached in London being only 17*s.* 6*d.* for the silk sold here at 20*s.* Finding this to be the case speculators began selling, and for the remainder of the season business dragged on in a dull and inanimate way, with but few intervals of life, prices gradually falling, until in May of this year ‘No. 4 Tsatlees’ were worth only 17*s.*, and not currently saleable at that price.

“Altogether the season was a disappointing one, both to foreign merchants and to Chinese, and profitable trading was the exception. The export showed a marked falling off as compared with the previous season.”

The statistics of the export as given by different firms vary slightly, but the following figures may be considered tolerably correct:—

Export to—				1881-82.	1880-81.
				Bales.	Bales.
England .	..	..	..	13,276	21,708
France ..	..	..	..	29,263	43,775
Italy and Switzerland	..	..	..	1,025	2,604
America .	..	..	..	7,036	9,341
Bombay, Straits, and Coast Ports	..	..	..	2,319	5,985
Total	..	..	..	52,919	83,413

Cocoons.—The establishment of filatures in Shanghai by three foreign firms has led to an increased demand for cocoons. Purchases have still to be made in the interior, but it is hoped that when dealers become aware that a market can be found in Shanghai, cocoons will be brought here for sale. The Shanghai filatures will no doubt exert a favourable influence in stimulating native manufacturers to pay greater attention to the reeling and preparation of silk, in which, despite of numerous complaints, there has been little or no improvement.

Waste Silk.—This substance is used in the manufacture of various cheap stuffs, for which there is an increasing demand in Europe. Prices have naturally risen, and the export has increased to 18,679 piculs, against 14,522 piculs during the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons have also met with a ready sale, and 2,120 piculs were exported, as compared with 1,919 in 1880-81.

Subjoined is a comparative Table of the principal exports from Shanghai during the years 1880 and 1881 :—

Description of Goods.				1880.	1881.
Silk, all sorts	..	Piculs	..	82,904	70,042
„ piece-goods	..	„	..	8,574	8,531
Tea, all sorts	..	„	..	794,202	881,059
Cotton, raw	..	„	..	552,194	347,650
Nankeens ..	..	„	..	26,353	25,873
Hemp ..	..	„	..	75,562	62,576
Hats, straw	..	Pieces	..	6,860,388	1,709,687
Hides ..	..	Piculs	..	18,522	33,285
Medicines ..	..	„	..	155,659	175,530
Nutgalls ..	..	„	..	23,881	23,820
Paper ..	..	„	..	119,771	34,655
Oil, wood, bean, &c.	..	„	..	50,917	51,863
Rice ..	..	„	..	3,208,660	3,665,990
„ tribute	..	„	..	717,279	713,925
Straw-braid	..	„	..	48,636	50,463
Sugar ..	..	„	..	908,860	777,355
Tobacco ..	..	„	..	81,102	61,264
Vermicelli ..	..	„	..	75,868	50,946
Wheat ..	..	„	..	600,471	871,220

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS.

The Woosung Bar.

This never-failing source of obstruction to the commerce of the port has become more noteworthy by reason of the probability of its speedy removal. A contract for the construction of a powerful steam-dredger was signed by the Shanghai Taotai and Mr. William Watson, a British subject, on the 26th December. The dredger is to be delivered within twelve months from the date of the contract; hence it may be confidently expected to be at work on the bar by the end of 1882. It is satisfactory to find that the native authorities have at length opened their eyes to the fact that it is better to afford a clear entrance to the port for commercial purposes than to preserve the bar as a questionable protection to Shanghai in case of war. Merchants have hitherto been often put to great expense on account of the necessity of lightening many steamers at Woosung before they are able to enter the river. During one week in the spring of 1881 four steamers had to be lightened before they could approach Shanghai. The mercantile community have, especially of late years, when steamers have increased in size and draught, endeavoured to obtain the dredging of the bar, and, failing the assistance of the Chinese authorities, offered in 1880 to accomplish the work themselves, proposing to defray the expenses consequent thereupon out of a River Conservancy Fund, to be raised by the imposition of special dues of one-tenth of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* on all merchandize passing through the foreign custom-house. The native officials declined to accede to this proposal, and the question was again shelved. It is all the more surprising and gratifying, therefore, that the Chinese authorities have now come forward and taken the initiative in the removal of the bar.

In connection with this subject I may mention that in May of the year under review a new channel across the bar, which had been known for some time to experienced ship-masters, was marked out by the Engineering Department of the Foreign Customs;

Meteorological Service for the Coast of China.

Efforts were made during the past year by the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce to organize a system of Meteorological Reports, "with the view of improving the knowledge of the origin and direction of storms, and warning mariners of their approach." The Chamber applied to the Director of an Observatory which has been in existence for several years in this neighbourhood at the Jesuit College of Sicawei. The Observatory is at present conducted by an able meteorologist, whose researches have already been of material advantage to navigators on the China coast. This gentleman readily agreed to the proposals of the Chamber, that he should assume the direction of a meteorological service. A meeting of representatives of local steamer and insurance companies was held, and a Committee appointed to report on the best means of carrying out the object in view. Some difficulty was at first experienced in obtaining the co-operation of the Customs Department; but, if this be secured, as now seems probable, the intentions of the Chamber will be realized, and great benefits may be expected to result to science and navigation.

Chinese Loan of 1881.

In March 1881 negotiations were entered into between Hu Kuang-yung, an honorary Taotai, as Agent for the Chinese Government, and the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, for the raising of a foreign loan to defray the expenses of the army, which had been occupied with the subjugation of the provinces on the north-west frontier. Tso Tsung-t'ang, Governor-General of the Provinces of Shên-si and Kansuh, under whose direction the military operations had been carried on, found himself at the end of the campaign with an empty exchequer, while the troops were half mutinous on account of large arrears of pay. The supplies for the defrayal of expenses connected with the reorganization of the territories under his control had been furnished by Imperial Decree out of the Customs revenues of several provinces. From various causes the remittances from these sources had largely diminished, and in some cases had failed altogether: thus Tso Tsung-t'ang was forced to seek for resources in other directions. A foreign loan being suggested, he grasped readily at the idea, and having obtained permission from the Throne to raise it, the Governor-General instructed Hu Kuang-yung to act as his agent in negotiating with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank a loan of 3,000,000 taels, which amount was afterwards increased by 1,000,000 taels. This loan is not guaranteed, as were those previously issued, by the hypothecation of the foreign Customs, but by certain securities given by the Province of Kansuh. The rate of interest is the same as before, namely, 8 per cent.

It may seem strange that a country, apparently of great resources, should be obliged to seek outside for so small a loan as 1,000,000*l.*; also, that it cannot obtain even this trifling amount, except upon terms which would be almost prohibitory to any other Power. But it must be remembered that there exists such a distrust of the governing classes in China, that though there is no lack of wealth among the native bankers, traders, and gentry, they allow their money to lie idle, or invest it in land or houses, returning little more than half the interest given on the foreign loans, rather than lend it to a Government which might at any moment repudiate its obligations with impunity where its own subjects only are concerned.

Shanghai Cotton Mill.

The cotton factory, which was started by an expectant Taotai, named P'eng, in 1878, under the auspices of the Superintendents of Foreign

Trade, has remained at a standstill for more than two years, partly from want of funds, partly on account of the incapacity of the Directorate of the Company. Recognizing the latter fact, the Superintendent of Foreign Trade for the northern ports removed Pêng from the head of the enterprise and appointed Tai, also an expectant Taotai, to be Director of the Company. An agreement had been drawn up in 1879 between the Company and a local British merchant, by which the latter was to purchase the requisite machinery for an 800 loom mill. After the withdrawal of Pêng from the Directorate, the Company appear to have reduced the dimensions of the projected factory to one of 200 looms, and in 1881 the original contract was annulled, Tai Taotai paying the forfeit money of 15,000 taels.

The enterprise, it would appear, has not, however, dropped, for an Imperial Decree has lately been received by the Superintendent of Trade for the northern ports, authorizing the raising of money to carry on the work by the issue of new shares. The Decree further grants a monopoly of the local manufacture of cotton goods to the present Company, and concedes the advantage of allowing local sales of the goods manufactured by the Company to be made without taxation. This patronage of the scheme by the Government has naturally given a strong impetus to the project, as evidenced by the daily advance in price of the shares issued.

The new Company is, it appears, obtaining the plant for the factory from the United States. Up to the date of this Report (August 1882) there is, however, no sign of the commencement of building operations. On the site belonging to the old Company the foundations of an extensive establishment were built, but they are now covered with weeds and present the picture of desolation.

Overland Telegraph.

The overland telegraph from Shanghai to Tien-tsin, constructed by the Great Northern Telegraph Company for the Chinese Government, was completed by the middle of December 1881, and was opened to the public on the 28th of that month. The line follows the course of the Grand Canal, the stations between Shanghai and Tien-tsin being Soochow, Chinkiang, and Tsing-kiang in the Province of Kiang-su, and Chi-ning and Lin-ching, in the Province of Shantung. At Tien-tsin the line connects with one between that port and Taku, at the mouth of the Peiho, which has been in operation for some years. The Government have not thought it advisable to connect the capital with Tien-tsin by telegraph, but as the distance between these two places is only 80 miles, which can be covered by express couriers in about eight hours, no very great loss of time is felt. Shanghai is now practically within twelve hours' reach of Peking, whereas, before the establishment of the telegraph, the average time in summer taken for the transmission of intelligence between the two places was five days, and in winter twelve days. The line having been opened so recently, it is impossible to know yet how useful it may prove in commercial matters. The high tariff, viz., 20 cents per word, between Shanghai and Tien-tsin, which has since been increased by 50 per cent., is almost prohibitive except for important messages; and as it is said that native messages are subject to supervision by the Telegraph authorities, Chinese merchants are chary about exposing their commercial operations to the official eye.

Estimate of the Value of Property in Shanghai.

The Chamber of Commerce favoured me, in February last, with a Memorandum on the value of foreign-owned property in Shanghai, a copy

of which is annexed to this Report. There was some difficulty in apportioning the ownership among the different nationalities, but the total value of the property in the foreign settlements, including land, houses, merchandize, &c., is estimated by the Chamber at 14,250,000*l*. This estimate, which certainly does not err on the side of exaggeration, enables us to judge of the importance of our interests at this port. Although the exact proportions in which different nationalities are interested cannot be easily ascertained, it is fair to assume that by far the larger portion of the total above mentioned consists of British capital, and that our stake in the foreign settlements here is proportionately no less than our share in the trade, that is to say, considerably more than that of the total interest of all other countries.

I beg to direct attention to the annexed Report on the shipping trade of the port, furnished by Mr. Hurst, the Acting Registrar of Shipping, and to the Report on the working of the Mixed Court, by Mr. Carles. Mr. Coulthard has taken much trouble in collecting miscellaneous information.

In conclusion, I have to apologize for the delay in forwarding this Report, which is owing to the fact that the Shanghai Customs statistics for 1881 were not obtainable until the 10th July.

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul*.

Shanghai, August 1882.

(Table No. 1.)—TRADE in Foreign Goods. Imports and Re-exports.
(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium—											
Malva ...	Piculs	39,944 97	18,114,803	1,010 81	566,059	...	...	29,589 11	16,569,907	3,769 68	9,110,465
Patia ...	"	10,049 55	4,743,460	174 01	70,470	...	...	9,480 50	992,346	5,683 46	5,589,564
Kenara ...	"	8,681 20	3,064,686	74 80	17,466	...	...	2,943 40	1,192,158	5,886 80	2,432,234
Perana ...	"	1,364 74	650,946	87 99	39,072	...	444	866 78	384,734	586 00	289,649
Cotton goods—											
Shirtings, grey ...	Pieces	5,972,539	6,959,768	552,939	799,930	344,893	456,564	4,515,904	5,940,901	964,932	1,972,833
" dyed, plain ...	"	1,354,439	1,977,466	44,774	643,580	24,363	34,874	1,910,142	1,768,907	560,696	816,615
" guinea ...	"	8,276	19,535	16,133	33,757	1,698	2,446	124,167	27,612	...	...
" white, spotted and broadened	"	12,696	35,711	...	...	...	...	13,693	6,234	9,859	4,376
" dyed ...	"	7,612	13,369	40	85	494	844	45,467	86,440	14,340	29,440
" American ...	"	56,917	117,249	840	1,751	...	...	130	161	860	777
" Oxford ...	"	700	933	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,104
T-cloths, 33 inches ...	"	807	1,104	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 36 inches ...	"	1,808,816	1,074,049	394,913	266,439	80,136	65,711	1,589,088	1,803,013	493,410	564,333
" printed ...	"	580,866	699,602	196,660	354,546	9,080	11,739	390,696	577,778	13,667	35,777
Drills, English ...	"	31,092	64,515	...	...	21,774	35,709	434,309	874,103	86,364	140,931
" American ...	"	592,173	971,164	49,744	81,579	10,363	36,764	435,768	1,192,192	52,066	148,754
" Dutch ...	"	475,545	1,331,533	12,465	36,164	...	...	39,210	83,309	11,190	23,947
Jeans, English ...	"	81,370	107,792	30	64	100	133	143,770	163,736	...	...
" American ...	"	96,548	132,687	7,130	9,413	...	...	38,770	76,603	...	...
" Dutch ...	"	86,100	70,395	44	88	...	...	...	...	...	15,568
Sheetings, English ...	"	19,340	31,156	...	...	35	45	9,640	15,017	9,610	24,799
" American ...	"	163,368	304,565	7,398	13,390	...	...	161,940	293,111	13,701	88,169
Chintzes and furnitures ...	"	593,615	1,619,464	6,480	14,039	130	307	664,634	1,446,307	34,441	39,810
Turkey red cloths or cambrics ...	"	149,334	1,618,817	3,637	3,990	364	433	117,168	128,674	35,919	83,493
Damasks, dyed ...	"	405,395	523,100	31,194	40,553	14,110	18,343	355,174	461,737	64,398	11,949
Velvets ...	"	15,848	65,198	139	139	...	...	13,466	43,376	3,453	8,461
Velveteens ...	"	54,628	99,073	6,170	99,370	16,190	77,064	36,736	174,964	9,773	46,615
Cambrics and Jaconets ...	"	17,896	86,180	5,679	26,566	106	453	16,434	77,667	6,944	35,697
Flannels ...	"	594	393	...	...	...	...	1,098	1,368	535	613
Prints ...	"	2,232	2,477	50	56	...	...	1,770	1,990	563	...
Trilla ...	"	4,909	11,132	6,961	11,332	844	1,360	20,668	32,983	90,479	36,863
Mullins ...	"	139,538	261,169	1,694	5,943	...	...	130,683	27,539	6,498	8,277
Lawn ...	"	75,013	36,756	1,667	278	35,768	17,696	53,123	16,351	16,167	8,966
Tullellas ...	"	69,008	37,953	23,603	18,481	6,000	7,360	16,090	8,340
	"	13,998	90,168	180	318	9,148	13,943

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Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton goods (continued)—											
Blue denim	Pieces	4,735	14,980	180	340	...	H. Tsels.	1,804	5,592	3,111	9,693
Christies, cotton	"	103,513	363,349	939	8,568	...	...	96,504	366,716	7,948	380,903
Christies, Japan	"	53	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	56
Cloth, Mohammedan	"	10,969	40,431	...	...	173	693	9,780	35,130	816	619
Long cloth	"	88	326	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	326
Linen, fine	"	29,886	179,316	13	78	140	840	5,363	60,178	21,398	138,376
" coarse	"	75	313	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	313
" and cotton mixtures	"	59	760	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	760
Brown Holland	"	959	1,096	...	...	...	...	...	...	959	1,096
Canvas	"	4,070	21,367	326	1,166	65	341	1,033	5,371	3,208	14,811
Cotton duck	Pieces	989	6,923	...	...	61	437	7	49	931	6,477
" Italians	"	41,981	73,886	93	164	...	...	23,460	41,890	16,614	32,760
Cottonades or cottons unclassified	"	11,524	31,091	499	896	...	...	15,066	34,500	...	...
Cotton handkerchiefs	Ducens	473,260	179,839	45,197	17,175	9,064	3,440	332,363	88,260	277,140	105,314
" quilts	"	83,524	16,268	163	113	2,917	1,459	8,300	3,984	23,469	10,938
" thread	Piculs	214 65	12,460	19 19	1,113	2 43	140	175 63	10,187	55 79	3,536
" yarn	"	14,646 30	346,155	8,864 85	231,631	743 00	18,575	20,314 33	507,358	2,453 73	61,543
Mosquito-nets	Pieces	4,190	6,691	...	...	...	...	2,943	4,709	1,347	1,963
Woolen goods—											
Alpacas	"	59	531	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	531
Blankets	Pairs	13,378	34,658	1,948	3,551	1,381	4,437	5,595	7,366	9,470	36,516
Burling	Pieces	336	1,378	...	...	...	...	...	...	316	1,306
Camlets, English	"	160,433	1,530,905	4,835	45,741	1,443	11,670	135,618	1,385,759	98,198	249,317
Camlets, Dutch	"	9,760	44,160	90	1,440	90	1,440	1,320	19,130	1,540	34,640
Laosings	"	112,437	946,410	8,840	31,189	1,354	10,941	86,725	700,738	98,308	237,930
" crape	"	1,799	8,060	20	90	60	269	7,853	35,177	...	...
Long cloths	"	90,179	457,204	9,500	48,164	3,800	19,266	20,090	456,403	5,849	59,704
Spanish stripes	"	48,985	237,139	2,570	22,462	2,707	2,659	43,043	376,196	5,805	50,736
Laosires and Orleans, figured	"	146,799	437,155	9,468	27,523	18,771	54,624	139,981	407,345	...	...
" plain	"	8,904	26,619	50	146	4,381	13,453	4,060	11,315	...	...
" crape	"	8,351	9,861	...	...	249	754	...	5,606	513	1,493
Cloth, habit, broad, and medium	"	18,724	439,827	683	16,019	143	3,336	13,165	283,573	7,099	3,491
" Russian	"	20,323	607,380	240	7,300	90	600	92,091	662,720	...	106,637
" narrow	"	448	4,809	...	...	...	...	...	...	458	4,809
" pilot	"	...	...	6	130	...	...	453	10,945	...	...
" poncho	"	324	5,675	...	...	...	...	73	1,360	358	4,415
" Italian	"	10,190	46,276	146	764	2,543	12,135	833	3,977	6,992	33,963
" union	"	1,690	22,459	941	16,751	80	1,160	639	9,265	1,913	27,314
Costumers	"	13	150	3	30	...	...	...	...	15	180

[illegible]

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
Metals (continued).—											
Nails, manufactured, unclassified, as hardware, brassware, brass buttons, steelware, tinware, cutlery, &c. ...	Value Piculs	...	291,294	...	13,814	...	1,954	...	102,810	...	290,344
Anchors and chains ...	Pieces	6,638 11	14,951	...	200	...	337	...	4,199	...	10,635
Timber.—											
Beams ...	Pieces	19,336	87,315	2,564	11,564	...	...	...	...	...	88,329
Planks, hard wood ...	Sq. ft.	...	134,011	150	240	...	...	...	...	...	134,144
" soft wood ...	Sq. ft.	15,110,788	528,878	...	...	58,482	2,047	461,747	16,161	14,590,559	510,670
" teak ...	Cub. ft.	60,238	21,090	6,447	2,121	264	92	1,047	380	65,354	22,739
Piles and poles ...	Pieces	14,299	6,292	...	...	...	...	...	132	...	6,160
Sundries.—											
Aniseed, star, whole ...	Piculs	2,106 34	28,436	1,581 06	21,344	...	...	4,516 19	60,268	...	...
" broken ...	Piculs	...	...	284 20	2,132	...	...	708 11	5,311	...	...
Awabi ...	Pieces	790 70	16,179	25 47	479	...	...	688 98	14,373	157 01	3,982
Bags, gunny ...	Piculs	892,448	70,609	1,150,254	57,117	8,300	498	11,400	9,780	2,092,029	194,707
Bark, Japan ...	Piculs	5,350 75	9,434	...	...	...	...	1,139 17	14,070	...	...
Beer ...	Pkgs.	9,467	33,135	774	3,709	...	...	4,377	38,073	...	...
Betel-nuts ...	Piculs	768 45	2,305	12,375 54	97,137	...	...	19,680 94	38,073	6,364 55	20,874
" husk ...	Piculs	1,206 27	1,809	1,721 59	2,582	...	...	2,195 65	9,168	862 31	1,337
Birds' nests, 1st quality ...	"	0 32	800	15 37	38,435	...	...	11 69	99,935	...	...
" 2nd ...	"	18 94	24,622	37 61	17,893	...	...	63 91	81,783	...	...
" 3rd ...	"	203 64	71,274	279 27	97,205	...	...	153 31	53,399	...	...
Bicho de mar, black ...	"	6,975 88	279,035	3,657 36	146,205	...	...	8,605 55	34,322	...	...
" white ...	"	3,700 54	59,309	2,304 30	35,332	...	...	1,159 50	18,552	...	...
Borax ...	"	13 60	136	238 25	2,386	...	153	1 76 16	784	...	...
Boxes, fancy and assorted ...	Value	4,240	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brandy ...	Pieces	4,781	21,515	102	459	...	...	...	2,908	...	...
Bricks and tiles ...	Pieces	83,449	2,777	...	...	...	...	5,620	193	77,259	18,186
Brushes and brooms ...	Dozens	1,859	3,611	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,859	3,611
Camphor, Japan ...	Piculs	2,417 70	36,366	...	...	...	...	2,104 12	31,562	...	...
" Malay ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Barroca, clean ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" refuse ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Candles ...	Roxes	9,430	12,825	15	264	...	...	...	1,373	...	...
Cans ...	Pieces	44,730	4,473	17,297	1,730	...	...	4,597	6,362	...	...
Cardamoms, superior ...	Piculs	...	...	407 69	61,154	...	...	60,397 09	51,914	...	...
" inferior ...	Pieces	44 96	...	5,302 43	106,049	4,697 30	91,346
Carpets ...	Pieces	1,084	3,262
Cement ...	Pkgs.	4,889	11,295	272	705

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		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
China ware, tse . . .	Pcils	189 80	6,643	8 50	398	181 80	6,546
Charcoal . . .	Pkgs.	40,231 32	20,111	40,231 32	20,111
Chrys . . .	Pcils	342	34,900	508	50,300	778	77,940
Clams, dried . . .	Pcils	1,408 07	14,880	37 70	376	1,366 34	13,566
Clocks . . .	Pieces	53,073	91,433	3,641	6,965	479	928	28,763	60,209	28,473	36,210
Cloth, cotton, Japan . . .	Value	6,281	3,419	6,963	3,219	320	300
Cloth, emery, &c. . .	Pcils	...	1,606	1,606
Cloves mother . . .	Pcils	1,308 23	36,247	...	163	926 41	27,783	276 38	8,291
Coal . . .	Tons	215,687	1,037,511	945 09	1,716	2,04 94	1,449	38 16	287
Cockles . . .	Pcils	4,423 59	7,776	392	3,587	4,671	23,496	311,118	1,016,603
Coffee . . .	"	87 50	941	1,173	6,603	7,446	7,446
Coke . . .	"	649 33	6,980	15 88	175	730 95	1,897
Compasses . . .	Tons	3,465	33,418	373 65	3,065	28 80	168	844 85	2,177
Compasses, small . . .	Pieces	79,969	9,219	27	257	2,438	28,161
Compy can . . .	Pcils	153 84	7,881	4,320	116	45	168	84,244	2,377
Copper cash . . .	Strings	17,810 81	10,704	76 74	3,859	126 31	5,344	103 27	6,398
Cotton waste . . .	Pcils	740 81	5,050	765	459	17,075	10,245
Coal . . .	Pcils	0 13	780	19 30	143	39 40	201	101 32	737	639 29	4,265
Covers, table . . .	Pieces	3,793	4,493	0 06	390	0 43	2,795
Crossedies' scales . . .	Pcils	63 89	3,173	3,793	4,493
Cuttle-fish . . .	Pkgs.	178	4,731	13	246	38 49	1,953
Dress and colour . . .	Pcils	5,478 18	43,825	308 47	3,468	10,567 93	84,544	165	4,466
Elephants' teeth, whole . . .	Pcils	30,539	741,763	4,695	203,820	45	1,919	13,163	524,730	2,016	417,943
Engines . . .	Pieces	25	1,748	48 32	9,181	48 32	9,181
Fans, paper . . .	"	556,760	4,396	9,000	16	31,660	171	637,160	1,748
Fish, kingfishers' . . .	"	28,363	1,985	404,583	26,331	277,501	19,455	155,443	4,343
Felt, bleaching . . .	Pcils	33,550	9,627	33,550	9,627
Firewood . . .	Pcils	1,929 43	1,430	1,929 42	1,430
Fish, dried and salt . . .	"	5,085 54	1,636	5,085 54	1,636
Flint, atlas . . .	"	883 26	6,625	839 49	2,550
Flint, atlas . . .	"	933 38	9,457	973 40	7,408
Flour . . .	Pkgs.	34,840 60	19,639	9,694 40	7,799	287 87	4,091	32,310 04	11,633
Flowers, artificial . . .	Value	5,983	35,639	9,885	39,540	4,546	10,184	16,332	65,288
Fungus . . .	Pcils	...	4,408	4,408
Gambier . . .	Pcils	160 90	4,566	0 41	19	187 06	3,906	94 25	4,699
	"	411 70	1,317	38 00	93	382 70	1,214
	"	383 65	1,771	504 21	9,369

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		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Bamboo	Piculs	...	13,161	43 13	1,165	...	...	38 71	1,045	4 42	190
Bamboo	Value	...	8,832	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,916	13,161
Gas-fittings	Pkgs.	1,916	8 80	0 36	660	...	1,000	...	...	1 40	8,832
Gin	Piculs	...	3,640	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,600
Guano, Corean, 1st quality	"	2 80	19,062	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " 2nd "	"	91 18	217,989	13 61	5,675	...	...	541 40	243,631	...	...
Japan, 2nd	"	484 42	4,357	82 47	1,014	202 43	9,612	38 02	611	255 84	9,049
" rods and beads	"	411 82	...	839 89	284,973	...	...	490 78	132,695	449 11	112,276
" American, clarified . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 10	1,310	...	...
" native	"	33 97	3,007	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 97	3,007
Glass, broken	"	166 33	380	569 84	1,351	...	...	269 20	553	456 47	1,079
Gold and silver thread	"	0 86	2,336	9 53	6,783	...	...	...	8 762	0 11	356
Gum, dragons' blood	"	83 21	915	106 28	2,169	...	...	668 07	7,348	...	...
" myrrh . . . . .	"	...	...	536 40	4,237	...	...	453 93	3,871	...	356
" oilbanua	"	...	1,516	3,097 76	26,331	8 03	66	3,203 29	18,738	866 45	7,555
Hair, horse	"	89 39	5,448	11 63	175	3 66	55	17 79	297	89 39	1,516
Hemp	"	363 22	2,874	186 35	1,633	...	...	...	...	353 40	5,307
Hemp twine	"	169 20	29,648	9 40	69	296 09	3,886	...	...	354 65	4,307
Hides, cow and buffalo	"	2,280 59	649	...	16,590	...	...	...	...	1,997 90	25,680
Honey	"	46 39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Horns, deer, young	Pairs	433	15,190	474	2,070	...	...	...	...	589	31,115
" rhinoceros	Piculs	739 82	22,195	43 09	38,731	...	...	38 53	94,677	475 64	14,248
Horn	Value	...	4,858	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,104	4,858
India-rubber	Piculs	78 07	4,848	2 43	177	...	...	63 74	3,664	19 75	7,150
Indigo, liquid	Piculs	...	7,040	110	110	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jacquas	Value	441 22	2,908	160 44	809	...	...	3,305 51	16,028	91 97	571
Jacquas	Piculs	7,085 70	193,440	463 23	13,044	0 81	2	7,498 96	194,931	147 24	7,543
Lamps and burners	"	190 47	9,624	...	...	...	...	...	...	60,959 31	6,556
Lead, fat	Piculs	70,964 83	15,178	15,179	3,117	163 63	1,990	24,914	2,136	1,580 37	9,493
" white	Piculs	463 39	2,774	1,179 35	7,075	61 20	887	...	...	1,974 76	6,435
" yellow	"	18 48	9,710	964 28	6,916	...	...	...	...	1,585 43	6,995
Locher	"	187 26	7,101	1,573 06	67,394	9 28	83	1,01 60	4,998	55,829	69,485
Looking-glasses and mirrors	Piculs	54,274	3,893	2,783	915	...	...	1,834	704	1,945 43	4,014
Lacrusan seed	Value	54,274	1,119	708 65	1,757	...	...	955 07	2,368	1,195 17	3,536
Machine betting	"	447 59	5,536
Machinery	Pkg.	1,509	152,645	163	4,156	13	907	914	38,945	1,545	190,949

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		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (continued)—			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Mangrove bark ..	Piculs	5,977 65	4,783	11,187 80	8,986	100	80	11,043 55	8,834	5,993 70	4,794
Matches, wax ..	Gross	7,165	11,567	434	539			39,685	20,480		
Matches, wood ..	Piculs	1,125,311	374,103	93,807	43,181	1,639	568	696,190	326,339	618,339	186,447
Mats, coir ..	Pieces	733	2,768							733	2,768
Medicines ..	Piculs	3,181 06	13,859	23 10	148	16 10	64	576 16	5,145	1,613 90	8,793
Mother-of-pearl shells ..	Piculs	697 43	2,093	318 18	965			31 62	1,146	654 09	1,901
Mushrooms ..	Pieces	5,483 10	179,293	147 48	4,867			3,894 91	126,323	1,755 67	57,338
Musical boxes and instruments	Pieces	2,597	8,431	513	1,047			1,343	5,578	1,768	6,890
Musk ..	Piculs	0 34	2,770							0 34	3,770
Muscle, dried ..	Piculs	2,018 67	34,234	7,339 77	86,877			863 01	8,490	8,996 43	103,611
Needles ..	Millie	1,353,450	240,685	195,000	19,102	745	130	971,210	146,817	411,476	90,240
Nutmegs ..	Piculs	190 19	1,902						380	131 69	1,533
Oakum ..	Pieces	286 10	1,743	150 45	9,779			133 55	8,031	96 90	1,743
Oil, linseed ..	Gallons	614	1,439	175 06	517	107	373	46 30	374	307 96	1,713
Oil, kerosine and petroleum	"	3,375	1,793	30	56			996	501	373	996
" paint ..	"	8,735,945	475,110	143,000	19,790			996	509	2,390	1,233
" turpentine ..	Piculs	16,990	10,798	636	733	514,750	66,918	2,008,374	350,698	1,347,831	177,314
" pepper mint ..	Piculs	6,060	9,577			415	370	5,517	3,494	11,693	7,756
Optical instruments	Value	4 96	1,190			1,000	400	1,306	590	3,755	1,467
Paints, assorted	Piculs	5,691 09	1,670	307 15	1,943					4	1,190
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs	2,389 06	34,137	16 81	405	133 90	923	532 73	13,063	4,176 45	95,083
" printing ..	Value		2,844		1,347					47,063	47,063
" wall ..	Piculs	109	2,844					56	1,031	83	4,447
Peacock composition	Piculs	67 90	1,096							1,833	1,833
Pearls, false ..	"	11 58	8,106	0 11	77					1,095	1,095
Peel, orange ..	"	863 56	6,636							11 69	8,163
Pepper, black ..	"	6,194 83	48,605	41,888 64	337,988			46,166 73	353,332	9,669 87	21,159
Pepper, white ..	"	4,765	23,260	636 08	6,319	256 87	3,012	450 81	4,485	1,733	174 13
Perfumery ..	Piculs	166 25	7,235	49 30	1,587	0 10				4,765	23,260
Pieric acid ..	Piculs	1,943	13,187					49	1,668	156 55	7,454
Plate-glass ..	Pieces	3,964 94	5,083	2,391 44	3,109					1,943	12,167
Potatoes ..	Piculs	45,184	581							6,256 68	8,133
Pouches, tobacco ..	Pieces	3,467 53	27,143	3,196 61	34,393					48,181	581
Prawns and shrimps, dried	Piculs	55	5,479	1	74	20	230	1,331 53	13,546	4,363 46	47,767
Pumpe ..	Pieces	5,549	1,673							3,577	3,553
Reed ..	Piculs			3,640 41	33,764	14 35	138	3,471	934	3,078	4,439
Reed ..	Piculs							3,134 06	19,307	493 08	

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		Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.
Sundries (continued)—	Piculs	50 49	404	1,410 78	13,009	...	...	1,066 70	9,949	874 57	3,564
Baisins ..	"	21,319 54	55,431	14,261 84	37,081	...	...	13,767 56	35,949	31,793 50	56,635
Rattans, whole ..	"	...	...	672 23	1,566	...	...	...	...	673 23	1,566
Rice ..	"	...	...	58 18	475	...	...	...	...	893 90	6,683
Rope, Europe ..	"	...	...	7,145	5,390	...	...	...	...	1,561 43	16,618
" wire, old ..	"	...	...	1,155 62	11,556	...	...	...	...	3,049	26,043
Rugs ..	"	22 212 26	28,360	183 96	1,191	333 57	440	2,313 32	3,049	19,749 33	19,501
Sandal-wood ..	Pieces	16,558	28,857	...	...	...	...	6,686 62	9,356	10,778	108,574
Sapan-wood ..	Piculs	48,448 43	164,725	49,052 22	166,777	...	...	66,957 62	227,567	30,551 03	108,574
Seals ..	"	11,033 89	23,723	84,109 77	180,836	...	...	77,656 62	167,034	17,468 04	37,636
Sea-shells ..	Pieces	141	9,637	...	...	...	...	...	...	106	9,018
Seaweed and agar-agar ..	Piculs	72 04	101	1,988 57	2,714	...	...	...	...	1,863 49	2,506
Sharks' fins, black ..	"	300,398 36	619,033	11,260 23	28,692	...	...	284,343 30	587,798	97,315 29	59,937
" fins, white ..	"	1,141 05	18,257	243 11	3,890	...	...	677 89	10,538	684 66	10,965
Silk, raw ..	"	513 48	20,539	1,226 98	49,079	...	...	1,286 02	51,641	487 94	17,517
" yellow ..	"	70 69	24,742	...	...	7 81	2,733	...	...	63 88	22,009
" wild raw ..	"	40 90	12,270	...	...	61 90	18,570	...	...	...	...
" piece-goods ..	"	4 83	531	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 83	531
Skins, fox, large and small ..	Pieces	12 21	7,336	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 21	7,326
" land otter ..	"	8,896	13,344	...	...	...	...	6,323	9,335	2,673	4,009
" seal ..	"	1,514	1,211	...	...	...	...	1,097	878	417	333
" squirrel ..	"	768	1,537	...	...	...	...	610	1,196	168	343
" dog ..	"	13,423	2,685	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,423	2,677
Serp ..	"	30,623	3,003	...	...	...	...	16,987	1,703	13,066	1,300
Spirits of wine ..	Bales	136,262	87,227	8,135	5,907	...	...	28,350	18,170	116,007	74,944
Sticklac ..	Gallons	2,061	1,236	120	70	...	...	...	...	2,181	1,306
Sisal ..	Piculs	20 95	314	705 88	10,589	...	...	196 48	2,947	630 35	7,966
Sugar, brown ..	"	930 00	706	1,104 51	3,391	...	...	14,480 38	44,486	...	...
" white ..	"	1,027 66	5,570	81 70	443	...	...	12,906 98	69,955	...	...
Sulphur acid ..	"	22 251 90	85,645	262 08	1,980	...	...	8,346 52	42,155	14,157 46	44,810
Tea, Japan, for re-exportation ..	"	1,166 97	15,715	...	...	1,053 64	14,224	...	...	...	...
" black, for re-exportation ..	"	...	...	1 00	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Japan, for local consumption ..	"	879 53	6,674	...	...	...	...	...	...	490 53	6,487
" dust, Japan ..	"	873 13	8,652	...	...	...	...	...	...	878 13	8,652
Terscopics and spy-glasses ..	Pieces	834 28	2,391	...	...	...	...	614 38	1,720	219 96	671
Tinder ..	"	1,143	1,699	...	...	...	...	151 108	8,889	1,197	1,711
Tin-foil ..	Piculs	219 89	2,974	1,195 53	10,879	...	...	976 84	8,889	468 58	4,364
Tobacco, leaf ..	"	54 01	1,738	...	...	...	...	...	...	54 01	1,738
" stalk ..	"	97 20	563	...	...	...	...	...	...	97 20	563
Tooth-powder ..	Pgs.	1,985 44	1,899	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,965 44	1,899
		168	1,163	...	...	...	...	40	301	138	841

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued).—</i>											
Tortoiseshell, whole	Piculs	0 66	188	21 23	6,579	...	...	...	...	20 50	6,150
Towels, Japan	Pieces	63,683	2,218	...	...	463	...	180	...	62,040	2,193
" "	Dozens	164,733	60,786	950	286	513	169	94,446	31,168	60,734	19,734
Toys	Pkgs.	871	30,744	1	36	...	...	297	8,373	675	22,407
Ultramarine	Piculs	3,173	13,149	160	1,010	...	...	9,925	12,636	406 48	947
Umbrellas, silk	Dozens	1,099	17,441	218	3,460	...	...	...	8,316	1,086	16,443
" "	"	3,921	14,184	183	657	...	...	3,033	10,888	1,098	3,943
" alpaca	"	2,613	11,706	90	90	...	...	1,825	8,178	760	8,403
" zanzella	"	710	2,812	...	...	48	915	...	...	760	2,812
Varnish	Piculs	77 62	1,505	11 40	140	...	...	...	...	89 02	1,645
Watches	Pieces	12,928	53,179	740	3,103	...	...	6,843	27,963	6,747	27,657
Wax, Japan	Piculs	460 64	4,646	...	...	...	...	183 81	1,938	286 83	2,400
Wax, white	Piculs	50 00	3,400	...	...	...	...	...	...	50 00	3,400
Window glass	Boxes	41,080	88,733	1,333	3,641	...	...	25,438	54,946	16,548	35,743
Wine	Value	...	1,307	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,307
Wood, canvas	Cases	95,073	112,934	9,325	13,713	...	...	6,398	23,789	91,499	96,748
" ebony	Piculs	2,800 00	4,200	3,768 45	5,675	...	...	348	3,059	4,301 95	6,468
" garoo	"	8,784 79	80,747	13,931 47	47,675	...	...	9,075	16,951	16,970 46	59,396
" "	"	13 83	1,521	28 50	2,915	...	...	311	684	341	3,441
" "	Pieces	708	13,292	...	...	...	...	30	500	673	12,792
" hats and shingles	"	619,330	1,463	...	...	...	...	...	...	619,330	1,463
" laka	Piculs	1,930 14	5,311	443 51	1,393	...	...	1,119 85	3,094	1,563 77	3,409
" logs	"	2,316 41	8,391	...	...	...	...	1,655 00	5,900	761 41	2,591
" pum	"	3,150 13	4,357	1,437 00	1,625	...	...	2,237 76	2,725	2,349 38	3,257
" rose and red	"	7,536	7,536	14,391 78	28,563	...	101	4,574 14	9,146	13,424 86	26,560
" scales	Pieces	50,735	6,075	4,235	483	...	...	29,148	3,511	23,867	1,987
" scented and fragrant	Piculs	53 41	534	261 38	2,514	...	...	...	450	257 46	2,575
Sundries unenumerated	Value	...	192,755	...	31,994	...	13,153	...	38,591	...	174,006
Total	...	...	60,968,093	...	7,356,080	...	1,239,363	...	47,932,457	...	20,371,007
Excess of Re-export above Import of some articles during the year...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	588,673
Net total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,783,334

Total, 19,783,334 Haikwan taels = at 6s. 6½d. the tael, to 6,481,356½ Oz. 11½d.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 2.)—SUMMARY of Imports and Re-exports (Foreign).

(From Customs Returns.)

Imports—				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
From Great Britain	..	..	..	23,386,094		
India	..	..	..	26,803,699		
Singapore and Straits	..	..	..	724,097		
Australia	..	..	..	410,749		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	2,431,330		
United States	..	..	..	3,300,312		
British America	..	..	..	225,037		
Russian Manchuria	..	..	..	25,530		
Japan	..	..	..	3,479,934		
Egypt	..	..	..	4,901		
Philippine Islands	..	..	..	8,048		
Cochin China	..	..	..	771		
Siam	..	..	..	87,591		
Hong Kong	..	..	..	6,441,057		
Total from Foreign Countries	..	..	..		67,329,150	
Chinese Ports	..	..	..		915,003	
Total Foreign Imports	..	..	..			68,244,153
Re-exports—						
To Great Britain	..	..	..	7,125		
India	..	..	..	1,795		
Singapore and Straits	..	..	..	1,156		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	22,231		
United States	..	..	..	14,181		
Russian Manchuria	..	..	..	83,513		
Japan	..	..	..	1,099,361		
Hong Kong	..	..	..	555,022		
Total to Foreign Countries	..	..	..		1,784,384	
To Newchwang	..	..	..	1,518,901		
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	8,999,644		
Chefoo	..	..	..	3,005,941		
Hankow	..	..	..	12,154,449		
Kiukiang	..	..	..	2,661,337		
Wuhu	..	..	..	2,447,697		
Chinkiang	..	..	..	8,218,701		
Ningpo	..	..	..	6,726,029		
Wenchow	..	..	..	248,831		
Foochow	..	..	..	603,144		
Tamsuy	..	..	..	12,345		
Takow	..	..	..	3,134		
Amoy	..	..	..	53,032		
Swatow	..	..	..	19,520		
Canton	..	..	..	4,730		
Total to Chinese Ports	..	..	..		46,677,435	
Total Foreign Re-exports	..	..	..			48,461,819
Net Total Foreign Imports	..	..	..			19,782,334
Total, 19,782,334 Haikwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 5,481,355l. 0s. 11d.						
(Signed)				P. J. HUGHES, Consul.		

(No. 3).—TRADE in Native Produce.—Imports and Re-exports.
(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Silk—											
Raw, Ningpo	Piculs	238 08	65,037	...	...	...	...	175 63	48,398	63 06	17,589
" Chinkiang	"	10 03	2,595	...	...	...	...	1 00	400	8 43	3,108
" Waiu	"	604 62	157,175	...	...	...	...	863 44	84,335	942 06	65,940
Yellow, Szechuan	"	6,770 85	1,692,634	...	...	439 09	108,083	4,518 58	1,132,616	1,519 88	464,970
" Chiefoo	"	924 39	277,217	...	...	90 74	6,322	878 28	263,464	25 37	7,611
" Tien-tsin	"	4 84	1,153	...	...	...	...	...	4 84	4 84	1,463
Reeled, Dupion	"	0 57	86	...	...	...	...	...	0 57	0 57	56
Refuse or waste	"	8,687 63	434,881	...	...	5 00	960	8,730 43	438,031	250 91	30,108
Wild, raw	"	2,177 27	261,573	...	...	67 39	8,087	1,868 97	223,077	69 82	4,867
Cocoons	"	70 87	4,961	...	...	1 06	74	...	94	925 35	108,130
Ribbons	"	650 36	302,673	...	...	409 44	190,631	...	...	8 63	1,413
Thread and levers	"	7 93	3,083	4 28	5,102	4 40	1,716	...	...	...	...
Piece-goods	"	1,692 35	1,015,350	0 09	35	1,653 86	933,328	900 18	130,108	157 01	2,760
Pongees	"	1,374 83	1,015,350	16 91	10,146	89 60	3,640	1,035 21	295,034	...	...
Thrown	"	...	...	...	...	10 80	3,664	...	...	...	...
Silk and cotton mixtures	"	95 48	51,005	27 14	5,971	131 37	96,679	...	...	1 35	297
Ten—											
Black, Hankow	"	320,067 70	5,611,183	...	...	74,394 75	1,364,710	238,433 19	4,383,364	3,236 51	67,945
" Kinkiang	"	5,598 77	1,944,574	...	...	1,123 64	38,680	88,240 43	1,863,049	114 34	2,173
" Waiu	"	369 75	7,025	...	...	...	...	265 41	4,563	...	...
Ningpo	"	447 34	7,157	...	...	218 88	3,802	588 77	9,420	...	...
Wenchow	"	636 67	11,280	...	...	164 74	2,786	942 53	16,959	...	...
Foochow	"	2,869 35	61,648	...	...	1 00	18	797 74	14,360	3,070 63	37,370
Anoy	"	11 10	200	...	...	...	...	43 56	766	...	...
Canton	"	7 61	139	...	...	3 00	51	...	4 61	4 61	79
Tien-tsin	"	4 14	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Green, Hankow	"	68 59	1,578	...	...	38 06	875	780 63	17,491	...	...
" Kinkiang	"	58,613 13	1,548,792	...	...	...	...	61,503 83	1,414,564	...	...
" Waiu	"	3,017 44	44,354	...	...	...	...	1,948 13	43,079	59 33	1,306
Ningpo	"	161,166 81	3,384,383	...	...	98 33	2,065	186,437 43	3,637,186	...	...
Wenchow	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	393 83	9,057	...	...
Foochow	"	45 93	918	...	...	...	...	...	...	48 93	918
Brick	"	306,943 67	1,132,190	177,994 39	978,969	155 06	1,473	36,007 44	138,834	2,941 84	16,337
Leaf	"	1,463 63	17,695	...	...	1,576 70	13,614	...	...	1,707 56	20,233
Dust	"	11,556 81	95,686	...	...	...	...	13,097 39	96,778	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
<i>Tea (continued)</i> —											
Seed ...	Piculs	0 60	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 60	5
Slack ...	"	136 51	478	...	...	...	...	...	...	136 51	478
Cotton—											
Kaz, Hankow.	"	300 50	2,990	...	...	300 50	2,990	...	...	...	...
Wuhu ...	"	393 51	3,905	...	...	160 43	1,586	...	...	...	...
Ningpo ...	"	6,437 71	64,055	...	...	2,251 65	22,501	7,610 27	75,723	...	...
Canton ...	"	37 34	371	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 34	371
Tien-tsin.	"	6,795 37	67,644	...	...	809 47	8,064	...	...	6,983 90	69,690
Nankens	"	4,510 62	45,101	2 00	70	4,234 84	42,319	614 41	21,505	...	...
Clothing	"	141 49	9,904	13 72	960	13 39	937	35 40	1,776	116 42	8,119
Thread	"	33 67	1,077	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 67	1,077
Sundries—											
Alum, green	"	4,167 59	3,136	...	...	3,955 75	3,907	95 00	71	116 84	88
" white	"	40,523 53	32,418	...	...	31,263 46	17,010	13,250 13	10,585	6,059 66	4,853
Amiceed, star	"	34 47	465	2,545 29	34,224	1,673 78	95,383	6 95	93	690 13	9,316
" broken	"	536 49	4,034	868 92	6,617	380 00	2,850	...	...	1,023 41	7,691
Arsenic	"	5,025 40	30,152	...	...	4,541 49	37,357	...	...	453 91	2,905
Bags, hemp and gunny	Pieces	3,681,868	110,679	11,313	93,188	1,237,050	16,063	...	...	2,334,121	64,559
" straw	"	339,910	11,339	8,154,640	11,339	2,151,393	66,133	...	...	1,343,167	39,383
Bamboo canes.	"	437,046	13,111	885,414	26,563	6,400	193	3,910	117	1,312,150	59,305
" shoots, fresh	Piculs	2,081 51	4,743	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,081 51	4,743
" do, dried	"	41,151 40	165,358	21 17	76	39,877 07	154,190	...	...	11,395 50	41,144
" ware	"	151 03	1,813	883 73	10,605	975 91	11,710	0 90	11	57 96	666
Barley, pearl	"	1,261 08	3,764	...	...	893 97	2,822	6 33	19	381 78	923
Bean-cake	"	281,215 79	337,459	...	...	193,819 72	232,584	13,182 00	15,518	74,511 07	99,057
Bean-curd	"	717 99	2,096	4 05	16	121 50	362	...	...	600 54	1,740
Beans and peas	"	54,563 17	87,301	10 30	16	52,753 92	84,446	25,579 96	40,927	...	...
Bones, tigers	"	96 17	3,077	2 40	77	110 96	3,530	...	...	...	...
Books, Chinese	"	396 01	19,301	0 80	80	449 07	22,454	8 59	446	...	...
Bow strings	"	39 74	1,043	...	...	6 45	174	...	...	...	...
Brass foil	"	299 46	8,954	70 61	2,118	212 42	6,373	...	...	383 29	809
" ware	"	390 52	11,716	48 25	1,447	330 35	9,910	83 59	2,508	187 65	4,730
Battons, brass	"	2,375 64	143,538	23 33	1,400	1,609 32	94,553	...	...	24 83	745
Caspoor cutlery	"	1,733 19	8,661	214 61	1,073	1,766 33	8,831	...	...	789 75	47,385
Cups, felt	Pieces	41,331	10,333	...	...	31,000	7,750	4,460	1,115	5,871	1,468
Corpeta, native	"	28,956	28,343	...	...	18,056	16,250	338	214	10,663	6,778
Cassia buds	Piculs	254 99	4,080	23 43	375	238 08	3,909	...	...	40 84	616
" linnua	"	1,832 58	23,694	2,405 03	31,265	3,191 86	41,494	4 00	52	1,041 75	18,543
" twigs	"	2,922 18	8,766	3,755 50	11,367	5,599 08	16,797	7 14	15	1,071 46	3,521

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Flowers, plants	Pieces	582,493	7,336	...	...	9,942	206	180	135	579,360	6,895
Fruit, dried	Pieces	150,184 84	150,994	1,671 86	...	43,285 70	147,803	39,560 35	116,063	79,010 47	283,166
" fresh	"	83,993 80	190,074	231 48	575	7 314 41	27,394	847 19	1,793	66,183 38	92,063
Fungus	"	15,466 51	440,706	0 26	...	5,905 41	148,353	4,037 94	116,080	6,238 43	177,370
Galear	"	9 96	...	4,779 60	15,394	4,381 51	18,700	11 00	35	497 04	1,691
Ginseng	"	1,041 17	48,072	...	...	565 15	26,857	161 82	9,339	314 30	13,866
" root	"	873 75	5,645	...	...	58 73	1,608	4 10	49	310 93	3,991
" Korean, 1st quality	"	78 23	196,575	0 15	...	20 38	50,950	25 84	64,600	82 16	80,400
" 2nd "	"	5 80	7,540	0 18	182	0 18	334	...	...	5 76	7,488
Glassware	"	9,028 33	38,338	192 44	3,656	1,186 62	23,545	...	109	1,028 38	19,630
Gins, cow	"	2,118 16	14,945	558 69	4,470	2,318 90	18,716	1 50	13	366 45	3,683
Gold thread, imitation	"	59 63	4,194	6 22	435	65 13	4,559	...	...	1 01	...
Grasscloth, fine	"	1,431 64	137,437	113 19	10,866	957 05	91,876	...	8,348	587 78	56,437
" coarse	"	3,313 19	139,397	...	...	1,758 61	70,344	...	1,403 33	1,403 33	56,089
Gypsum	"	73,782 00	36,366	66 35	2,254	22,334 23	11,117	93,577 00	11,788	96,990 72	13,481
Hair, camels'	"	9,947 17	96,969	...	...	...	...	9,853 45	96,279	194 73	683
" cows'	"	17 53	1,093	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 88	870
" goats'	"	2,416 48	13,707	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" horses	"	9,697	13,021	...	...	157 00	1,021	...	...	...	...
" pigs'	"	79 73	90,661	...	...	41 00	1,820	...	...	...	...
Hemp, bamboo and straw	"	558 14	6,372	...	...	6 40	1,169	...	...	...	...
Hats, bamboo and straw	"	7,959 874	173,119	2,646	43	179 27	9,584	1,036 17	18,607	139 78	1,986
Hemp	Pieces	56,091 53	683,739	...	155	59,661	4,504	957 04	3,856	...	...
" netting	Pieces	831,960	44,359	10,714	...	43,577 89	318,033	1,694,466	71,089	5,578 374	98,711
" skin	Pieces	4,444 96	7,387	...	750	132,036	7,871	18,966 01	161,647	800,536	38,338
" twine	Pieces	31	956	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,444 96	7,387
India, cow and buffalo	"	27,169 39	353,111	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Horns, chamois	"	871 80	82,983	448 30	9,784	93 35	1,919	...	73	...	...
" deer, yd	"	251	8,903	...	6,898	77 80	7,363	...	4,368	...	...
" old	Pieces	61 30	1,956	...	...	161 43	1,843	...	...	...	...
" cow and buffalo	"	2,764 62	19,921	...	...	258 73	1,863	...	...	...	...
Hornware	"	58 44	1,461	16 38	409	46 76	1,168	1,973 13	9,159	1,360 84	9,007
Indigo, dried	"	1,994 58	90,711	64 02	1,024	534 54	8,547	...	...	...	...
Intonars	"	19,510 33	97,151	32,421 38	102,106	6,837 57	39,688	...	...	...	...
Iron knives	Pieces	13,393	1,396	...	...	8,445	749	...	...	...	...
" nails	"	82,555	1,554	...	...	39,953 26	906	...	...	...	...
" old	Pieces	9,446 69	10,683	454 62	1,864	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ware	"	6,440 62	46,384	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ivoryware	"	26 35	9,187	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (continued).—											
Jade-stone ...	Piculs	299 61	11,70,833	0 64	192	53 98	H. Taels. 9,283	8 10	H. Taels. 160	239 32	76,701
... ware	Pieces	45,635	60,097	...	...	9,900	9,735	...	...	35,733	50,373
Joan-stick powder	Piculs	6,667 67	7,965	44 02	93	56 80	124	...	...	6,664 89	7,964
Joan-sticks	"	898 86	7,175	67 16	9345	100 79	806	95 24	202	868 01	1,064
Jacquard	"	30 77	861	64 75	9,945	35 77	1,483	0 68	24	39 17	1,609
Lampblack	"	2,634 57	10,071	...	...	1,485 90	3,204	...	...	1,665 67	7,965
Lamp	Pieces	231,189	59,406	22,061	3,197	204,731	96,677	...	...	49,439	5,928
Lead, red	Piculs	244 53	1,834	...	...	256 76	8,143	...	...	...	6,464
... white	"	3,146 36	18,678	95 00	570	2,161 07	12,984	...	...	1,077 99	8,843
... yellow	"	5,237 17	84,042	95 00	617	4,048 85	26,317	...	...	1,383 32	16,438
Leadier	"	2,136 10	32,287	93 63	936	693 58	10,633	311 48	6,163	1,427 66	6,431
... silk and parchment	Pieces	533,360	6,531	...	...	...	...	...	...	533,360	11,000
... ware	Piculs	333 32	14,133	9 36	374	83 50	8,840	4 16	167	275 02	95,816
Lily flowers, dried	"	49,795 50	266,773	30 80	146	11,672 56	70,036	26,651 16	161,107	4,309 48	23,703
... seed or lotus nuts	"	8,578 04	111,514	8 63	113	6,057 66	78,749	182 66	10,175	1,746 34	10,073
Liquorice	"	4,573 45	26,796	...	...	645 63	3,581	2,395 79	13,175	1,831 03	10,399
Lung-nan pulp	"	2,413 08	31,370	2,395 19	30,927	3,830 16	49,793	115 89	1,446	793 22	43,671
Lung-nan, dried	"	21,600 05	199,960	4,420 17	26,321	18,783 16	119,668	18 63	112	1,375 43	1,608
Marble dials	Pieces	304 03	1,530	26 25	131	8 65	6,919	...	...	331 63	4,637
Meat, bamboo and rattan	"	41,223	10,308	2,036	1,223	24,579	54,504	2,737	654	15,953	5,983
... straw	"	1,115,613	25,700	1,148,830	24,763	1,703,353	54,504	874,287	11,976	187,153	6,933
... tea and silk	"	53,656	1,666	2,735,343	57,211	631,813	26,618	1,400	46	1,944,758	69,238
Melting	Rolls	599	1,977	1,169	3,857	...	...	1,003	3,907	748	3,483
Medicines	Piculs	183,833 30	1,363,715	12,831 68	111,717	96,643 32	653,496	66,355 10	491,176	30,758 56	333,758
Mirrors with frames	Pieces	490,057	15,908	30,530	551	163,578	11,684	...	...	363,309	7,071
Mushrooms	Piculs	1,326 90	43,863	...	...	96 53	3,184	73 08	3,411	1,159 99	38,266
Musk	"	93 97	163,795	...	...	6 14	41,185	18 15	145,300	...	...
Muscle dried	"	526 06	6,327	...	...	2,239 55	26,356	179 48	3,153	...	10,432
Mussels	"	24,863 38	245,634	...	...	4,57 33	44,578	19,363 30	193,624	1,399 44	7,708
Oil, tea	"	4,293 34	32,953	...	...	3,015 44	19,110	7 40	44	47,543	260,408
... wood	"	87,747 67	489,619	...	...	81,757 66	17,687	8,644 11	47,543	47,543 88	...
... pepper	"	9 93	709	0 10	24	81,757 66	17,687	...	...	...	...
Opium, Szechuan	"	2,002 82	696,818	...	...	293 87	63,924	...	...	2,189 15	633,824
... prepared	"	1 39	709	...	...	0 34	356	...	...	313	488
Paddy	"	13,760 23	9,435	...	...	13,053 33	9,127	...	...	694 03	90,750
Paints assorted	"	433 40	9,047	90 00	320	83 63	546	...	...	489 89	9,047
Paper, best quality	"	95,641 39	715,717	331 78	9,009	18,954 19	511,116	7,538 71	210,916	11,084 33	40,383
... put	"	88,077 87	473,486	610 43	3,390	7,864 19	415,523	106 03	383	1,069 19	2,484
... silk	"	5,561 31	58,683	...	...	7,730 80	80,646	43 44	636	...	...
... pearls, false	"	98 31	3,456	6 13	275	41 30	1,586	...	...	19 45	874

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (continued)—			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Peel, orange ...	Piculs	8,618 74	50,662	2,419 04	33,897	2,436 82	34,115	...	...	3,600 96	50,414
" punelo ...	"	756 29	9,749	35 76	548	328 10	5,261	...	...	463 95	5,036
Pepper red, or chillies	"	544 43	6,099	...	...	83 14	316	11 32	110	489 97	4,873
Peppermint leaf	"	385 82	1,350	...	...	130 05	420	192 09	673	73 68	358
Potash ...	"	440 24	1,424	...	...	20 30	125	...	...	419 94	1,399
Portery, earthenware	"	950 48	15,305	519 10	2,305	294 73	4,715	33 40	534	1,141 45	18,354
Prawns and shrimps, dried	"	548 69	6,036	19 32	211	1,505 08	16,556	89 80	658	...	...
Preserves and sweetmeats	"	3,533 94	31,796	243 29	2,181	2,667 64	24,009	38 95	350	68 64	9,618
Provisions, dried	"	3,134 18	29,575	217 15	435	883 37	13,435	239 27	3,249	9,378 69	13,636
Rattans, split	"	509 39	2,466 49	2,466 49	19,929	2,164 52	11,256	2 00	10	839 36	4,313
Rattans, whole	"	214 76	3,007	14 61	204	83 29	1,166	...	...	146 08	3,045
Rhubarb	"	7,190 68	280,436	...	...	598 78	23,352	5,627 54	219,474	964 36	37,610
Rice	"	574,069 47	688,883	...	...	535,206 02	642,246	...	...	38,863 45	46,637
" red	"	650 00	688,780	...	...	430 00	640	...	...	300 00	940
" Tribute	"	756 11	4,316	36 54	303	635 53	4,999	15 51	85	141 61	135
Resin, gum	"	1,863 84	8,229	16 70	383	1,547 67	3,045	...	...	332 87	917
Rouge	"	134 80	9,741	66 54	1,146	105 76	2,517	...	...	95 67	1,340
Safflower	"	9,991 43	223,651	...	...	1,500 16	79,969	1,707 56	95,003	783 71	48,679
Sambur	"	9,363 51	38,391	82 10	336	5,294 61	21,708	4,719 64	19,331	...	...
Sea blubber	"	1,509 01	3,195	...	...	1,474 08	3,113	...	...	84 95	83
Sea-shells	"	1,436 23	2,033	133 14	165	153 16	191	...	...	1,605 20	9,007
Seaweed and agar-agar	"	198 57	427	...	...	629 53	1,813	90 20	270	...	...
Seed, sesamum	"	10,088 25	42,917	...	...	5,879 82	26,459	5,953 94	28,757	...	...
" Sesamum	"	1,305 49	1,472	...	...	10 25	61	21 15	147	...	...
Shoes, vegetable	Pairs	121,058	108,551	840	746	17,060	16,719	5,417	4,801	1,174 06	1,984
Shoes, skin and cotton	Piculs	57,796	3,071	0 22	2,571	...	...	...	...	99,491 00	87,777
Silver and gold ware	Pieces	82,609	91,242	...	...	4,334	9,398	89	1,089	53,373	112,564
Skin clothing	"	23,063	21,413	...	...	2,502	1,604	43,026	12,467	32,081	7,131
Skins, goat	"	12,691	7,394	...	...	565	1,651	...	...	22,493	2,961
" squirrel	"	5,317	7,184	...	...	27,260	37,001	1,246	518	...	...
" sheep and lamb	"	944,284	220,065	...	...	7,584	302	...	...	4,733	7,183
" dog	"	10,979	8,622	...	...	99	245,208	...	...	...	...
" rupa	"	10,922 39	8,622	...	...	6,015	1,887	245,208	2,662	...	...
Snuff, native	Piculs	23,154 12	61,193	...	...	19 64	859	6,329	706	272 75	8,183
Snap, native	"	8,150 00	63,893	...	...	1,857 43	3,703	1,640 50	...	19,586 19	56,784
Spelter	"	94,456 74	2,493	...	...	4,110 32	30,927	1,356 60	10,175	2,863 83	600
Stone slabs	Pieces	26,092	1,312	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,092	2,393
Stone, anyen	Piculs	1,109 99	1,312	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,109 99	1,312
Straw braud	"	50,067 30	1,351,617	...	...	251 08	6,779	40,393 44	1,349,823	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued).—</i>			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Sugar, brown . . .	Piculs	509,673 01	1,664,696	516,617 58	665,017	877,099 50	1,167,695	881 13	2,644	346,359 97	1,069,374
Sugar, white . . .	"	405,307 74	2,196,766	137,103 74	688,897	357,538 73	1,967,806	8,659 33	46,559	165,923 53	1,699,301
" candy . . .	"	36,613 61	257,963	6,377 06	41,451	28,914 96	1,967,947	3,991 89	25,947	65,439	65,439
Strawdown . . .	Pieces	30,253	6,356	"	"	15,193	13,093	1,300	1,650	10,063 84	2,460
Tallow, animal . . .	Piculs	1,267 13	335,067	"	"	531 45	3,407	360 61	1,808	385 06	1,996
" vegetable . . .	"	49,245 71	10,313	"	"	4,386 23	28,949	18 33	131	44,851 15	296,017
Tinfol . . .	"	319 17	681	193 04	6,177	483 06	16,778	"	"	19 15	613
Tinware . . .	"	25 17	831	28 23	789	9 76	533	"	"	39 33	1,988
Tobacco, leaf . . .	"	46,398 98	271,716	378 49	7,948	17,304 85	103,839	2,467 23	24,258	25,483 90	163,964
" prepared . . .	"	79,598 24	1,671,563	107 08	100	40,131 57	843,769	1,303 91	24,258	38,610 95	811,460
" stalk . . .	"	1,467 56	1,713	63 00	186	"	"	"	"	1,674 58	1,813
Turneric . . .	"	10,568 67	31,706	"	"	5,245 40	15,736	763 83	3,291	4,631 35	13,906
Umbrella, paper . . .	Pieces	108,248	254,317	13 23	556	43,943	6,015	55,790	7,901	9,563	1,338
Varnish . . .	Piculs	6,053 80	15,154	"	"	2,640 18	110,887	57 64	2,431	3,668 21	141,465
Vegetables, dried . . .	"	807 26	3,961	"	"	"	"	"	"	308 55	3,866
" salted . . .	"	2,303 96	7,478	1 40	544	740 14	3,323	166 78	1,976	1,663 01	2,733
Vermicelli . . .	"	64,963 84	359,733	275 97	544	5,753 19	34,518	44,553 99	267,316	4,674 58	98,048
Vermilion . . .	"	68 73	4,333	16 92	101	3,186 29	136,170	"	"	291 61	18,079
Wax, white . . .	"	13,773 68	613,086	3,418 17	149,925	5,648 44	371,155	4,731 83	236,648	3,410 06	116,683
" yellow . . .	"	635 67	16,967	7 56	367	500 73	13,019	56 94	1,480	1,768	3,650
Wheat . . .	"	26,027 56	49,613	"	"	33,910 09	38,833	"	"	3,117 47	1,746
Wood, coffin . . .	Pieces	1,171	1,749	"	"	6	3	"	"	1,165	1,833
" fire . . .	Piculs	6,441 55	1,933	"	"	"	"	"	"	6,441 55	7,083
" planks . . .	Sq. ft.	261,636	7,849	"	"	25,539	766	"	"	26,107	20,410
" poles . . .	"	63,393	35,953	"	"	36,006	15,848	"	"	44,387	3,449
" ware . . .	Pieces	1,307 19	13,979	40 15	441	919 96	10,086	15 79	173	313 58	308
Wool . . .	"	9,964 97	19,264	"	"	6 47	43	3,913 97	18,954	47 53	251
Yak's tails . . .	"	4,109	1,643	"	"	"	"	3,460	1,392	659	24,431
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	73,176	5,076	"	"	"	48,503	"	5,339	"	26,346
Copper cash . . .	Strings	55,376	53,166	"	"	8,000	4,800	"	"	47,376	9,242,433
Total . . .	"	"	40,883,333	"	3,915,185	"	15,677,794	"	19,543,903	"	665,441
Excess of Re-export above Import of some articles during the year	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	8,576,981
Net Total	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"

Total, 8,576,981 Hukwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 3,376,438l. 10s. 8½d.

P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Signed)

(No. 4.)—SUMMARY of Imports and Re-exports (Native).

(From Customs Returns.)				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Imports—						
From Newchwang	..	..	..	765,595		
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	1,989,242		
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	2,374,275		
Ichang ..	..	..	..	73,895		
Hankow	..	..	..	16,531,115		
Kiukiang	..	..	..	5,025,297		
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	1,232,643		
Chinkiang	..	..	..	1,081,563		
Ningpo ..	..	..	..	4,423,095		
Wenchow	..	..	..	71,327		
Foochow	..	..	..	513,495		
Tamsuy ..	..	..	..	52,054		
Takow ..	..	..	..	218,503		
Amoy ..	..	..	..	443,737		
Swatow ..	..	..	..	4,118,403		
Canton ..	..	..	..	1,969,093		
Total from Chinese Ports				..	40,883,332	
From Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	2,915,185	
Total Native Imports				..	..	43,798,517
Re-exports—						
To Newchwang	..	..	..	644,074		
Tien-tsin ..	..	..	..	3,863,614		
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	584,444		
Ichang ..	..	..	..	5,265		
Hankow ..	..	..	..	3,170,132		
Kiukiang ..	..	..	..	680,891		
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	468,252		
Chinkiang ..	..	..	..	1,866,342		
Ningpo ..	..	..	..	797,085		
Wenchow ..	..	..	..	63,761		
Foochow ..	..	..	..	816,268		
Tamsuy ..	..	..	..	1,258		
Takow ..	..	..	..	11,141		
Amoy ..	..	..	..	116,630		
Swatow ..	..	..	..	935,109		
Canton ..	..	..	..	1,683,468		
Hong Kong for Chinese ports ..	..	..	..	1,830,380		
Total to Chinese Ports				..	..	17,508,114
To Hong Kong for foreign countries	..	..	..	411,594		
Great Britain ..	..	..	..	9,181,586		
India ..	..	..	..	429,485		
Singapore and Straits ..	..	..	..	122,558		
Australia ..	..	..	..	30,181		
Continent of Europe ..	..	..	..	1,800,259		
United States ..	..	..	..	4,653,345		
British America ..	..	..	..	17,087		
Russian Manchuria ..	..	..	..	230,888		
Japan ..	..	..	..	786,497		
Turkey in Asia, and Egypt ..	..	..	..	37,265		
Cochin China ..	..	..	..	2,834		
Siam ..	..	..	..	9,843		
Total to Foreign Countries				..	..	17,713,422
Total Native Re-exports				..	..	35,221,536
Net Total Native Imports				..	..	8,576,981
Total, 8,576,981 Haikwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 2,376,538l. 9s. 8½d.						
(Signed)				P. J. HUGHES, <i>Consul.</i>		

(No. 5).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Imports of Opium for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	1879.						1880.						1881.					
	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Malwa.	Patna.
Stock on board receiving-vessels, 1st January	Pic. c. 9,435 50	Pic. c. 1,509 60	Pic. c. 733 00	Pic. c. 159 00	Pic. c. 9,354 50	Pic. c. 1,490 40	Pic. c. 760 00	Pic. c. 937 75	Pic. c. 9,133 46	Pic. c. 800 00	Pic. c. 169 39	Pic. c. 323 00	Pic. c. 8,760 40	Pic. c. 9,971 30	Pic. c. 9,911 30	Pic. c. 853 00	Pic. c. 5,274 00	Pic. c. 9,087 60
Total imports	33,905 50	12,966 40	7,633 00	2,836 25	27,708 18	7,033 19	7,389 60	1,584 50	33,897 43	10,911 45	8,760 40	1,443 00	33,897 43	9,971 30	9,911 30	853 00	5,274 00	9,087 60
Total re-exports	39,011 50	9,814 00	2,065 30	2,317 50	27,547 23	9,144 80	2,539 60	1,699 75	30,138 75	9,371 30	2,911 30	853 00	30,138 75	9,371 30	2,911 30	853 00	5,274 00	9,087 60
Local consumption	1,345 00	9,909 60	5,677 30	150 00	1,374 00	6,370 59	5,613 40	139 50	1,441 80	6,303 65	5,274 00	133 00	1,441 80	6,303 65	5,274 00	133 00	5,274 00	6,303 65
Stock on board receiving-vessels, 31st December	9,844 50	1,490 40	750 00	297 75	9,133 46	800 00	169 39	323 00	4,450 33	9,087 60	734 40	665 00	4,450 33	9,087 60	734 40	665 00	734 40	9,087 60

The picul is equal to 133½ lbs. avoirdupois.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 6).—TRADE in Native Produce.—Exports and Re-exports.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Silk—	Piculs		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Raw, thrown, and yellow ...		38,963 75	13,631,888	238 50	83,475	260 06	91,021	6,400 16	1,653,871	44,893 47	15,480,865
Wild raw ...		11,197 85	671,871	10 87	...	...	...	1,998 36	331,164	19,934 16	931,164
Refuse or waste ...		2,317 55	163,238	0 20	652	...	...	8,795 43	436,371	2,318 80	1,084,704
Cocoons ...		11 49	6,319	...	14	...	...	1 05	74	...	163,164
Clothing ...		223 50	134,280	468 71	275,226	4,134 81	33,513	1,764 06	1,053,456	71 06	38,589
Piece goods ...		12 39	1,932	1 13	181	1 03	203	1,117 81	318,574	6,570 88	3,947,523
Prices ...		1,697 80	7,461	1 67	368	71 82	15,800	131 27	26,679	1,132 36	331,050
Silk and cotton mixtures ...		21 53	8,513	39 96	15,584	73 85	28,801	4 40	1,718	1,997 80	43,986
Wadding, old... ..		...	...	...	...	11 33	5,438	409 49	196,556	140 04	7,461
Thread and tassels ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54,514
Ribbons ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	430 83	201,993
Ten—											
Black ...		107 15	1,392	932 01	12,117	2,189 24	28,460	485,196 63	7,587,417	423,423 92	7,629,386
Green ...		1,552 50	27,946	...	...	30 19	543	333,169 30	5,094,380	334,771 89	4,063,808
Brick ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	304,001 83	1,117,803	304,001 83	1,117,803
Dust ...		32 27	194	...	...	...	...	13,673 99	109,392	13,706 26	109,586
Lead ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	165 06	1,473	155 06	1,473
Sundries—											
Alum, white ...		49	40	...	...	...	...	34,493 64	27,596	34,543 64	27,636
" green ...		...	...	...	...	...	15	4,050 75	3,038	4,070 75	3,063
Aniseed, star, whole ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	1,879 63	28,275	1,879 63	28,375
" broken ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	380	2,860	380	2,860
Arsenic ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	4,641 49	27,247	4,641 49	27,247
Bugs, hemp and gunny ...	Pieces	117,350	2,347	...	...	20,330	1,072	1,387,050	46,686	1,277,380	47,767
" grass and straw ...		2,980	59	...	...	1,100	123	2,161,383	66,133	2,246,843	67,603
Bamboo canes ...		6 36	44	...	...	67,983	1,734	10,310	309	71,083	2,133
" shoots, dried ...	Piculs	...	...	...	...	37 28	240	29,877 07	194,190	29,920 71	194,474
" split... ..		6 12	73	...	...	2,333 41	3,744	...	...	...	3,744
Bambooware ...		...	...	...	...	280 16	3,469	...	...	...	3,469
Barley, pearl ...		1	...	441 90	1,487	23 22	111	976 81	11,731	1,373 09	16,368
Beancake ...		...	...	...	...	74,513 86	89,415	199 80	2,841	670 42	4,439
Peancurd ...		9 74	29	...	...	166 28	408	297,001 73	946,403	281,615 68	387,818
Beans and peas ...		22,737 73	36,380	23,931 58	38,371	160,007 75	256,013	78,333 88	135,333	286,090 94	466,097

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Bones, cow, buffalo, and pigs	Piculs	...	...	6 30	19	4,141 32	2,546	...	...	4,147 32	2,546
Bones, tigers'	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110 96	3,540
Books, printed	"	31 40	1,580	35 10	1,755	606 25	30,203	447 96	23,999	1,159 91	56,496
Brass foil	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	213 43	6,373	213 43	6,373
Brassware	"	164 19	4,935	147 73	5,083	767 87	33,687	413 94	13,418	1,533 43	44,003
Buttions, brass	"	...	...	...	...	3 10	136	1,609 32	96,553	1,611 32	96,679
Capoor catchery	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,766 33	8,831	1,766 33	8,831
Caps, felt	Pieces	137	84	365	71	640	310	36,460	8,965	36,733	9,180
Carpets	"	5,209	2,187	13,889	5,392	86,448	37,515	...	...	107,466	45,134
Cassia buds	"	4,760	4,364	1,015	913	86,795	25,918	18,394	16,464	53,964	47,578
" lignum...	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	239 08	3,809	239 08	3,809
" twigs	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,195 96	41,546	8,195 96	41,546
China-root	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,606 33	16,813	6,606 33	16,813
China-ware, fine	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,168 30	73,108	11,168 30	73,108
" coarse	"	374 30	13,097	103 03	3,606	18 48	646	6,696 96	230,857	7,091 65	243,205
Cinnamon	"	3,343 97	33,439	908 66	5,087	1,488 50	14,895	7,576 10	75,761	12,611 32	136,113
Cloves	"	8 73	53	789 43	8,335	...	852	...	...	890 67	9,339
Clove-chow	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	169 36	6,940	171 36	7,033
Cinnabar	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 25	926	16 25	926
Cinnamon	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,086 41	5,976	1,086 41	5,976
Coin	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	41	...	...	...	6,017
Collars	Piculs	...	...	...	...	8,691	1,118	397 06	5,955	435 25	6,533
Copper ore	"	...	...	...	...	38 30	573	205 33	2,875	260 57	4,787
" old	"	76 15	901	80 10	961	44 62	1,249	106 49	2,943	190 86	5,343
Copperware	"	6 45	180	34 30	960	...	335	...	...	0 06	335
Coral	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 10	1,991	18 10	1,991
Corallian beads	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 60	4,043	8 60	4,043
Cotton, raw	"	23,248 33	231,470	24,739 48	346,155	279,439 95	2,780,393	11,173 33	111,164	347,650 08	3,459,117
" seed	"	...	...	...	...	2,147 80	901	...	...	2,147 80	901
" clothing	"	458 61	33,853	...	...	59 60	178	...	...	581 40	24,745
Yarn and thread	"	...	...	...	...	43 98	1,001	...	...	43 98	1,001
" cord	"	...	...	...	...	187 34	6,149	...	...	137 34	4,149
Bed-quilts	Pieces	4,393	3,863	...	...	181 26	138	...	...	4,293	3,863
" rags	Piculs	670 73	1,907	...	...	...	...	...	...	861 96	1,346
Carpettes	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38,415
Cattle-fish	Piculs	...	...	...	...	1,365 19	10,041	33,164 53	2,315	34,813 72	378,600
Dressing-cases	Pieces	...	...	1,393 01	11,144	...	...	6,123	5,780	6,123	5,780
Dusters, Feather	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	93,356	967	93,356	967

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
Sundries (continued)—											
Dye stuff	Piculs	35,386	177	167,348	1,169	5 21	85	3,345 96	15,097	3,351 17	16,183
Eggs, preserved	Pieces	3,864,690	11,257	...	...	2,145,390	15,015	133,335	933	2,471,364	17,394
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	"	48	...	...	...	...	...	118,350	355	3,983,040	11,613
" paper	"	680	47	...	...	...	...	7,236,069	238,498	7,236,069	238,498
" silk	"	10,377	764	1,517	130	2,437,253	192,541	13,911,940	139,119	13,911,940	139,119
Festivals	Piculs	2,843 87	14,981	...	...	43,307	6,005	3,112,380	217,870	5,651,880	410,678
Fire-crackers	"	15 44	...	...	...	3 05	19	3,693 97	6,016	134,317	11,386
Fish bones	"	...	185	...	...	...	...	179 33	9,021	6,539 89	94,091
" dried and salted	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,510	179 33	179 33	8,610
" maws	"	5 09	...	103 51	738	...	...	556 82	6,680	576 03	6,910
" glue	"	...	...	...	...	765 65	5,513	16 47	977	16 47	977
" skins	"	...	...	...	...	63 81	2,042	5,511 71	39,684	6,384 86	46,373
" line, silk	"	...	...	1 84	...	529 10	18,756	1,096 89	35,100	1,160 70	37,143
Flour	"	...	...	...	...	8 80	31 95	811 06	8,110	811 06	21,366
Flowers, dried	"	...	...	...	...	0 14	35	503 73	5,541	513 33	5,635
Flower seeds	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 89	638
Fruit, dried	Pieces	66 61	...	1,000	...	8 30	21	287 96	787	276 36	808
" fresh	"	61 05	...	1,264 07	...	10 00	80	304 23	1,059	314 83	1,189
Fungus	"	0 66	...	113 37	203	2,473 67	739	1,557 59	12,279	1,557 59	13,379
Galangal	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,193	841	17,349	1,100
Garlic	"	...	...	...	...	400 35	714	72,846 03	263,864	74,577 06	267,576
Ginger, fresh	"	...	...	...	...	2,473 67	4,682	18,061 60	29,186	30,709 99	34,369
Ginseng	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,243 35	263,433	9,244 01	863,428
" root	"	...	...	680 14	990	3,396 31	4,898	4,292 51	13,735	4,392 51	13,735
" 1st quality	"	...	...	...	...	24,806 24	46,369	...	...	3,985 45	5,895
" 2nd	"	...	...	...	...	0 50	87	...	...	24,806 24	46,369
Glassware	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	736 97	36,086	737 75	84,351
Glue, cow	"	1 99	...	...	...	0 06	150	63 83	1,657	63 83	1,657
Gold and silver thread	"	1 00	...	...	...	...	...	46 22	115,550	46 22	115,550
" thread, imitation	"	...	...	1 87	...	193 06	3,873	0 18	234	0 18	234
Grasscloth, fine	"	...	...	...	...	57 58	461	1,192 38	22,664	1,857 73	26,374
" coarse	"	...	...	...	...	21 32	1,492	2,330 40	18,732	2,378 98	19,191
Ground-nuts	"	2 84	...	13 09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gypsum	"	48 53	...	20 52	...	1,360 79	50,431	957 05	91,876	1,096 04	106,318
"	"	264 32	...	...	...	961 90	2,405	1,967 31	78,692	3,897 15	131,886
"	"	515 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,326 32	3,045
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,811 23	32,905	46,326 33	33,163

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Snakes (continued).—</i>											
Hair, canalic ...	Piculs	28 26	367	...	...	...	...	9,822 45	96,279	9,860 71	96,446
" goat ...	"	89 90	584	...	...	1,140 06	7,410	3,101 28	29,159	4,833 94	28,164
" horse ...	"	3 23	74	...	...	...	...	70 74	2,080	73 96	2,164
" human ...	"	876 16	9,187	...	...	...	...	39 65	1,084	415 81	10,271
" pig ...	"	101 66	5,580	...	...	...	...	1,084 77	18,676	1,138 44	21,211
Hans ...	Pieces	38 58	578	...	...	1,817 09	19,755	429 31	6,440	6,788 78	101,331
Hats, straw ...	Piculs	25,266	251	...	...	...	...	1,684,146	500,270	1,709,887	75,865
Hemp ...	"	7 46	59	...	...	...	...	63,533 90	100	63,576 06	600,628
Hides, cow and buffalo ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 38	73 00	73 00	2,501
Honey ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	33,185 73	480,763	433,707	9,199
Horns, camels ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" deer, young ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" deer, old ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indigo, dried ...	Pairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	153 00	13,731	153 00	13,731
" liquid ...	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,530 85	11,021	2,913 08	15,933
Int, China ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	439	15,016	431	16,046
Ironware ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	212 87	6,356	213 87	6,386
Ivoryware ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	559 34	8,949	560 63	8,969
Jadestone ware ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,578 34	33,893	6,578 34	33,893
Joss sticks ...	Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,431 61	36,870	4,731 35	38,114
Lacquered ware ...	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 53	2,353	6 94	2,429
Lampblack ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 93	3,433	119 33	4,108
Lamps ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,725	...	16,911
Lamp-wicks ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	136 08	1,008	139 47	1,036
Lard ...	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	36 35	1,487	64 80	2,657
Lead, red ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,068 90	2,306	1,342 81	2,864
" white ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	204,731	24,677	206,041	24,868
" yellow ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leather ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lily flowers, dried ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lily-seed, or lotus-seed ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Liquorice ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Luang-nian pulp ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Luang-nian, dried ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Snuffies (continued)—</i>											
Battaware	Pounds	...	...	...	...	...	...	83 99	1,166	83 99	1,166
Bein, gum	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,547 67	3,045	1,547 67	3,045
Bhabar	"	5 51	281	...	...	...	...	6,931 83	949 892	6,931 83	949 892
Biao	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,685 339 43	4,388 406	8,685 339 43	4,388 406
" Tribute	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	713 935 40	854 710	713 935 40	854 710
" red	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	661 04	4,384	661 04	4,384
Bouge	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	135 81	3,806	135 81	3,806
Bugs, skin	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	245 943	935 973	245 943	935 973
Bumbar	Pounds	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,907 73	174 973	3,907 73	174 973
Sea blubber	"	141 55	580	...	...	...	...	17,410 48	47 413	17,410 48	47 413
Seared and agavegar	"	41 19	108	...	...	...	...	99 100	99 100	99 100	99 100
Seet-cate, vegetable	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,911 03	2,083	7,911 03	2,083
Seed, sesamum	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,999 38	5,839	8,999 38	5,839
" vegetable	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,995 41	71,464	15,995 41	71,464
Shoes, silk and cotton	"	1,263 44	5,685	...	...	...	...	31 911	98 900	31 911	98 900
Shoes, straw	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	298 419	24 157	298 419	24 157
Silverware	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skin clothing	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skins, fox, and tails	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" cat	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" martin...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" hand-otter	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" rabbit and hare	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" sheep and lamb	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" weasel, and tails	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" squirrel, and tails	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" various	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Soap	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" seed	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Spectacles	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Need	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Straw braid	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar, brown	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" white	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" candy	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Strawdown	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (<i>certificates</i>)—	Piculs	45	H. Taels.	...	H. Taels.	701 93	3,809	898 06	4,410	1,698 98	H. Taels.
Tallow, animal	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,404 56	99,070	4,404 56	8,144
" vegetable	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	483 06	15,778	483 06	29,070
Tin-fall	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 76	...	11 64	15,941
Tinware	"	1 68	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco, leaf	"	1 43	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" prepared	"	83 57	679	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turneric	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Umbrellas, paper	Pieces	576	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Varnish	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vegetables, dried	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" salted	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vermicelli	"	90 45	28	988 87	9,957	2,777 18	8,331	...	...	...	...
Wax, white	"	9 68	58	208 70	1,813	488 54	9,571	...	...	...	...
Wheat	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" yellow	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wood, planks, soft	Sq. feet	...	...	13 53	353	28 14	783	...	...	...	...
" poles	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Woodware	Pieces	113 73	1,859	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wool, sheep's	Piculs	2,833 40	18,410	1 97	14	4,460	1,953	...	...	...	...
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	...	17,191	187 36	883	1,888 38	9,094	...	...	...	...
Copper cash	Strings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	16,349,911	...	1,134,038	836,794	569,054	8,000	35,931,536	...	65,100,393

Total, 65,100,393 Halkwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 13,038,184½ 15s. 9½d.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 7.)—SUMMARY of Exports and Re-exports (Native).

(From Customs Returns.)

To—	Exports.		Re-exports.		Total Exports and Re-exports.	
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Great Britain	3,488,614		9,181,586		12,670,200	
India	54,686		439,485		494,171	
Singapore and Straits	440,001		123,558		563,559	
Australia	4		30,181		30,185	
Continent of Europe	7,983,187		1,800,359		9,783,546	
United States	3,854,239		4,653,345		7,507,574	
British America	184		17,087		17,271	
Russian Manchuria	84,139		280,888		315,027	
Japan	340,520		786,497		1,127,017	
Philippine Islands	60		...		60	
Cochin China	3,554		2,334		6,388	
Siam, Turkey in Asia and Egypt	101,738		47,108		148,846	
Hong Kong, for foreign countries	381,128		411,594		792,722	
Total to foreign countries ...	...	15,731,039	...	17,713,423	...	33,444,461
Hong Kong for Chinese ports ...	752,897		1,330,380		2,583,277	
Newchwang	389,104		644,074		1,033,178	
Tien-tsin	3,184,350		3,363,614		7,047,964	
Chefoo	254,800		584,444		839,244	
Ichang ... ..	...		5,265		5,265	
Hankow	3,506,591		3,170,139		6,676,730	
Kiukiang	284,473		660,691		935,164	
Wuhu	18,445		463,353		481,798	
Chinkiang	26,400		1,266,343		1,292,743	
Ningpo	21,965		797,085		819,050	
Wenchow	30,054		63,761		93,815	
Foochow	496,341		816,368		1,312,709	
Tamsuy	8,258		1,358		9,616	
Takow	193,498		11,141		204,639	
Amoy	1,367,519		116,630		1,484,149	
Swatow	2,116,350		235,109		2,351,459	
Canton	2,607,643		1,683,468		4,291,111	
Total to Chinese ports ...	...	14,147,648	...	17,608,114	...	31,655,762
Grand Total ... ..	...	29,878,687	...	35,321,536	...	65,100,223

Total, 65,100,223 Haikwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 18,038,186l. 15s. 9½d.

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 8.)—EXPORT of Tea for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

(From Customs Returns.)

	BLACK.			Leaf.	Dust.	Brck.	Japan Uncoloured.	GREEN.						Japan Coloured.
	Congou.	Other sorts.	Total.					Young Hyson.	Hyson.	Twankay.	Imperial.	Gun- powder.	Total.	
To—	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
Great Britain	307,187 06	0 40	307,187 46	12,129 56	0 53	...	...	23,087 18	10,615 84	331 71	8,462 91	91,983 39	59,089 40	Pic. c. 67 87
Hong Kong	1,913 61	...	1,913 61	...	...	...	...	39 90	97 71	...	6 08	306 44	440 08	...
India	61 06	...	61 06	...	...	...	...	43 37	8,136 99	...	...	...	8,179 38	...
United States of America	34,849 80	140 08	34,989 88	...	4 50	...	...	66,254 78	9,481 88	1,833 01	19,181 54	69,914 00	166,145 01	998 27
Continent of Europe—														
France	99 71	46 14	145 85	...	...	...	...	56 18	...	...	...	0 38	56 41	...
Other countries	5,465 34	...	5,465 34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russia (Odessa).	4,631 33	...	4,631 33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian Manchuria	5,333 88	...	5,333 88	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Japan	174 01	55 37	199 38	...	...	1,573 36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Singapore and Straits	6 23	9 39	14 63	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Australia	181 26	...	181 26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
British America	199 66	...	199 66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin China	1 24	...	1 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ceylon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egypt	54 83	...	54 83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to foreign countries	360,119 18	280 39	350,339 47	12,129 56	...	26,007 44	...	89,391 31	28,370 97	1,664 73	32,798 06	93,485 26	234,605 33	1,053 64
" Chinese ports	76,084 46	...	76,084 46	...	155 06	117,998 33	10 13	...	99 67	...	...	66 90	166 57	217 78
Grand total	436,203 63	280 39	436,483 93	14,380 56	155 06	204,005 67	10 13	89,391 31	28,470 64	1,664 73	32,798 06	93,552 16	234,771 89	1,371 37

The picul is equal to 133½ lbs. avoirdupois.

* Includes 614-82 picole Japan dust.

† Includes 3-84 piculs Japan brick.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 9.)—EXPORT of Silk for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

(From Customs Returns.)

To—	Raw.		Thrown.		Yellow.		Total.		Raw, wild.		Waste.		Oocona.		Japan.	Corean.	Bombay.
	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Great Britain ...	10,723	8,558 18	...	...	343	348 78	11,066	8,908 91	841	887 28	3,700	10,379 40	40	88 01	...	...	...
Hong Kong. ...	999	238 60	...	...	13	15 89	312	354 39	...	...	4	10 87	1	0 90	...	...	...
India ...	170	139 01	...	...	840	977 60	1,017	1,116 61	...	...	60	195 61	...	...	5	...	...
United States of America.	8,044	8,004 10	10	7 88	...	...	8,044	8,013 98	...	...	...	...	101	172 44	...	...	...
Continent of Europe—	98,558	31,250 91	...	...	3,474	3,625 61	30,032	24,856 52	932	933 63	3,395	9,318 73	885	1,655 90	40	9	10
France ...	766	611 94	...	...	132	130 83	888	732 77	...	...	11	24 54	216	403 20	...	...	...
Other countries .	107	87 93	...	...	71	78 87	178	166 79	89	87 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suez ...	1,069	847 77	...	...	125	167 18	1,194	1,014 95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Straits and Singapore ...	16	13 71	...	...	59	63 15	75	75 86	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bussorah .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to foreign countries ...	47,753	39,734 04	16	7 88	5,047	5,396 86	52,809	45,193 78	1,963	1,853 97	7,060	19,959 13	1,353	2,517 75	45	9	10
„ Chinese ports ...	296	260 06	12	10 80	344	453 83	652	723 69	67	67 39	3	5 00	1	1 06	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	48,049	39,994 10	28	18 68	5,391	5,849 69	53,461	45,863 47	1,930	1,926 36	7,063	19,934 13	1,354	2,518 80	45	9	10

The picul is equal to 133½ lbs. avoirdupois.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 10.)—TRANSIT Trade Returns.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	11,100	14,652
„ white	„ ..	600	876
„ dyed	„ ..	1,014	2,058
„ spots and brocades, dyed ..	„ ..	250	515
„ Turkey red	„ ..	180	234
T-cloths, 39 and 36 inches ..	„ ..	20,650	26,845
„ 32 inches	„ ..	9,160	7,512
Drills, English	„ ..	1,560	2,558
„ American	„ ..	385	1,078
Jeans, English	„ ..	580	765
„ American	„ ..	80	156
„ Dutch	„ ..	80	129
Sheetings, English	„ ..	85	154
„ American	„ ..	420	1,075
Twills, printed	„ ..	80	144
Chintzes and furnitures	„ ..	240	264
Velvets	„ ..	354	1,685
Velveteens	„ ..	24	114
Handkerchiefs	Dozen ..	6,440	2,448
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	610	5,783
Lastings, cotton	„ ..	40	152
„ woollen	„ ..	180	1,445
Long ells	„ ..	620	3,143
Spanish stripes	„ ..	438	3,828
Lustres and orleans, figured ..	„ ..	578	1,682
Cloth, broad, medium and habit ..	„ ..	108	2,537
Copper, Japan	Piculs ..	65	937
„ sheathing	„ ..	30	509
Iron bars	„ ..	3,518	6,192
„ old	„ ..	25,366	32,975
„ wire	„ ..	1,054	4,097
„ nail-rod	„ ..	40,672	67,515
„ pigs and kentledge	„ ..	1,350	1,350
Lead	„ ..	6,405	24,470
Tin compounds	„ ..	600	12,314
„ in slabs	„ ..	9,321	191,923
„ in plates	„ ..	114	406
Steel	„ ..	1,250	3,573
Zinc	„ ..	154	774
Aniseed, star, whole	„ ..	80	1,086
Bicho-de-mar, black	„ ..	122	4,882
„ white	„ ..	118	1,895
Canes, bamboo	Pieces ..	142,195	4,265
Clams, dried	Piculs ..	74	445
Clocks	Pieces ..	390	646
Coal	Tons ..	24,587	118,362
Cockles, dried	Piculs ..	26	474
Coke	Tons ..	244	1,952
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed ..	Pieces ..	442,660	14,607
„ „ untrimmed	„ ..	3,799,000	18,995
Fish-skins	„ ..	81	897
Flints	Piculs ..	9,302	3,349
Galangal	„ ..	101	323
Ginseng root	„ ..	232	1,719
Gum olibanum	„ ..	70	597
Handles, bamboo, fan	Pieces ..	1,064,892	1,586
Horn, deer, old	Piculs ..	40	1,218
Indigo, liquid	„ ..	7,480	37,404
Isinglass	„ ..	525	13,649

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Lead, white	Piculs	113	679
„ yellow	„	239	1,555
Lichees, dried	„	95	573
Lung-ngans, dried	„	301	1,808
Mangrove bark	„	734	588
Matches, wood	Gross	38,025	11,408
Medicines	Piculs	155	922
Mushrooms	„	84	2,780
Mussels, dried	„	211	2,541
Oil, kerosene	Gallons	190,220	24,728
Oyster shells	Piculs	606	849
Paper, 1st quality	„	639	17,906
Peel, orange	„	187	1,871
Pepper, black	„	278	2,180
Plum-tree bark	„	561	840
Prawns and shrimps, dried	„	115	1,265
Rattans, whole	„	8,752	22,757
Sand, Japan	„	538	538
Sandal-wood	„	10,701	36,385
Sapan-wood	„	5,176	14,234
Seaweed	„	3,864	7,922
Sharks' fins, black	„	41	660
„ „ white	„	13	536
Soap	Boxes	5,431	3,802
Sugar, brown	Piculs	27,318	83,868
„ candy	„	590	3,886
„ white	„	11,005	59,647
Sulphuric acid	Lbs.	13,441	734
Tobacco, leaf	Piculs	70	421
„ prepared	„	46	978
„ stalk	„	1,217	1,095
Vermillion	„	8	523
Wax, Japan	„	43	2,091
Window glass	Cases	1,262	2,723
Wood, camagon	Piculs	951	1,426
„ ebony	„	158	553
„ laka	„	676	1,825
„ puru	„	299	3,992
„ planks, hard	„	349	504
„ red, rose	„	2,214	4,428
Sundries	„	..	8,236
Total value .. .. .	..	..	993,337

Total, 993,337 Haikwan taels—at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 275,237l. 2s. 6½d.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, *Consul*.

(No 11.)—GROSS and net Values of the Trade of Shanghai.
1879 to 1881.

(From Customs Returns.)

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.
— FOREIGN GOODS.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Imported from foreign countries and Hong Kong ...	58,847,069		56,046,498		67,339,150	
Imported from Chinese ports ...	1,162,092		1,070,635		915,008	
Total Foreign Imports ...	...	59,999,161	...	57,117,133	...	68,244,158
Re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong ...	2,213,265		2,171,082		1,784,384	
Re-exported to Chinese Ports (chiefly to Ningpo, the North-ern, and the Yang-tze ports)...	46,390,994		40,370,177		46,677,435	
Total Foreign Re-exports ..	48,504,259		42,541,259		48,461,819	
Net total Foreign Imports ...	11,494,908		14,575,924		19,782,334	
NATIVE PRODUCE.						
Imported (chiefly from Hankow, Kiukiang, and Ningpo) ...	...	40,339,011	...	42,594,862	...	43,798,617
Re-exported to foreign countries ..	14,166,460		16,717,069		17,713,482	
Re-exported to Chinese ports ...	17,370,394		18,288,062		17,608,114	
Total Native Re-exports ...	31,536,854		35,005,131		35,321,596	
Net total native imports ...	8,802,157		7,589,731		8,576,981	
Native produce of local origin ex-ported to foreign countries ...	17,878,908		19,461,742		15,731,089	
Native produce of local origin ex-ported to Chinese ports ..	13,257,519		15,742,494		14,147,648	
Total Exports of local origin .	...	31,136,327	...	35,204,236	...	29,878,697
Gross value of the trade of the port ...	...	181,474,499	...	134,916,281	...	141,931,267
Net value of the trade of the port (i.e., foreign and native imports less re-exports, and native exports of local origin) .	51,433,386		57,369,891		58,238,002	

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul.*

(No. 12).—SHARE taken at Shanghai by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries, and with the other Treaty Ports of China; and in the Transit Trade: with the Proportion borne by each Share to the whole Trade.

3.—Table showing the Estimated Proportion of the Share taken by each Foreign Flag in the Import and Export Trade, and the Trade Coastwise, and giving Statistics of the Transit Trade as carried on under Treaty, and of Population at the Treaty Ports.

(From Customs Returns.)

Flag.	TOTAL TONNAGE.			TOTAL VALUES.				
	Foreign and Coastwise, Inwards and Outwards.			Foreign Trade.		Coast Trade.		Total Values, Foreign and Coast Trade.
	Vessels employed.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage employed.	Imports.*	Exports.†	Outwards.‡	Inwards.§	
British .	550	2,631	2,047,093	Hk. taels. 53,310,056	Hk. taels. 16,723,754	Hk. taels. 41,209,512	Hk. taels. 24,896,079	Hk. taels. 136,139,401
American .	87	212	71,301	917,153	799,285	303,693	270,721	2,290,852
German .	98	168	92,185	2,071,500	583,187	907,175	899,972	3,961,834
French .	30	63	124,959	5,713,437	11,908,624	450,410	16,739	18,089,210
Dutch .	3	4	2,464	22,631	..	16,083	..	36,714
Danish .	20	36	23,979	76,235	61,582	115,935	101,866	355,618
Spanish .	10	47	8,291	..	1,179	129,851	124,547	254,398
Swedish and Norwegian .	2	2	832	3,014	..	19,283	..	23,476
Russian .	5	6	9,662	..	39,027	..	..	39,027
Austrian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese .	20	217	180,216	4,108,103	4,664,134	..	..	8,772,237
Peruvian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers .	8	8	3,603	41,300	43,360	10,101	..	95,197
Chinese .	76	1,450	1,125,665	1,065,721	404,713	35,171,154	18,903,160	55,544,748
Total .	909	4,844	3,690,241	67,329,150	35,228,845	78,333,197	44,713,520	225,604,712

* All goods arriving in vessels direct from foreign ports.

† All goods (original shipments of Chinese goods and reshipments of Chinese and foreign goods) departing in vessels cleared for foreign ports.

‡ All goods shipped at one Treaty Port for another, i.e., foreign goods reshipped and Chinese original cargoes and reshipments.

§ All goods arriving from the other Treaty Ports, i.e., Chinese original cargoes and reshipments and foreign reshipments.

TOTAL DUTIES.

Flag.	Foreign Trade.		Coast Trade.		Total Duties, Foreign and Coast Trade.	Total Tonnage Dues.
	Import Duties.	Export Duties.	Export Duties.	Import and Half Duties.		
British ..	Hk. taels m. c. c. 2,488,179 0 6 8	Hk. taels m. c. c. 104,065 6 7 5	Hk. taels m. c. c. 376,415 1 6 2	Hk. taels m. c. c. 126,634 1 4 7	Hk. taels m. c. c. 3,095,294 0 5 2	Hk. taels m. c. c. 93,260 2 0 0
American ..	29,554 3 2 7	1,149 5 2 8	4,878 2 4 2	2,012 7 4 0	37,594 8 3 7	9,717 4 0 0
German ..	70,084 4 4 0	2,565 8 9 6	22,112 5 5 2	3,109 1 5 2	97,872 0 4 0	8,956 4 0 0
French ..	266,810 0 1 1	245,025 1 4 6	645 0 0 0	..	512,480 1 5 7	5,837 2 0 0
Dutch ..	650 6 2 0	..	1,248 1 8 3	..	1,898 8 0 3	492 8 0 0
Danish ..	4,166 5 7 9	290 2 8 2	5,563 7 4 8	1,335 0 5 9	11,355 6 6 8	1,702 4 0 0
Spanish ..	..	..	1,539 0 5 3	1,365 2 0 0	2,904 2 5 3	205 4 0 0
Swedish and Norwegian	31 2 7 5	..	..	129 1 6 0	31 2 7 5	166 4 0 0
Russian ..	..	..	0 1 1 5	..	129 2 7 5	1,729 2 0 0
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	145,471 9 5 7	89,679 7 4 2	..	..	235,151 6 9 9	6,002 0 0 0
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	1,756 2 8 4	386 7 4 1	..	..	2,163 1 0 9	518 8 0 0
Chinese ..	70,584 9 1 4	5,242 2 4 1	69,336 2 1 7	59,216 5 3 8	204,379 9 1 0	11,262 1 0 0
Total ..	3,077,239 4 7 5	448,405 2 5 1	481,758 3 5 6	193,801 9 9 6	4,201,255 0 7 8	139,950 3 0 0

TRANSIT TRADE.

Flag.	Inwards.		Outwards.		Total.	
	Number of Passes.	Value of Trade.	Number of Passes.	Value of Trade.	Value of Trade.	Transit Dues.
		Hk. taels.		Hk. taels.	Hk. taels.	H. taels m. c. c.
British	11,060	489,753	204	273,607	763,360	17,427 0 6 2
American	5,232	180,347	23	199,564	379,911	5,055 6 1 2
German	137	28,109	24	34,810	62,919	1,384 5 8 7
French	..	..	32	77,176	77,176	978 4 4 0
Dutch	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spanish	2,079	136,988	39	36,000	172,988	3,887 1 7 0
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian	..	..	..	..	..	..
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese	3,404	158,140	..	..	158,140	4,001 7 6 8
Total	21,912	993,337	322	621,157	1,614,494	32,734 6 3 9
					8,970 2 3 9	

PERCENTAGES.

Flag.	Tonnage.		Trade.				Revenue.			
	Total Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Foreign Trade.	Coast Trade.	Total Foreign and Coast.	Transit Trade.	Duties on Cargoes.	Tonnage Dues.	Transit Dues.	Total Dues and Duties.
British ..	54.32	55.48	68.30	53.74	60.34	47.28	73.68	66.64	53.24	73.30
American ..	4.38	1.93	1.68	0.48	1.02	23.58	0.89	6.94	15.44	1.20
German ..	3.47	2.50	2.59	1.06	1.75	3.90	2.33	6.40	4.23	2.48
French ..	1.30	3.39	17.21	0.38	8.02	4.78	12.20	4.24	2.99	11.87
Dutch ..	0.08	0.07	0.03	..	0.02	..	0.04	0.35	..	0.05
Danish ..	0.74	0.23	0.14	0.18	0.16	..	0.27	1.22	..	0.30
Spanish ..	0.97	0.65	..	0.20	0.12	10.71	0.07	0.15	11.88	0.16
Swedish and Norwegian ..	0.04	..	..	0.01	0.01	..	..	0.12	..	0.01
Russian ..	0.12	0.26	0.04	..	0.02	..	..	1.24	..	0.04
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	4.48	4.88	8.56	..	3.88	..	5.60	4.29	..	5.51
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers ..	0.17	0.10	0.01	..	0.04	..	..	0.37	..	0.06
Chinese ..	29.93	30.51	1.44	43.95	24.62	9.80	4.87	8.04	12.22	5.02
Total ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

POPULATION. (FOREIGN.)

	Number of Firms.	Number of Residents.
British	150	1,200
American	8	100
German	26	206
French	6	155
Dutch	1	9
Danish .. ..	..	12
Spanish	5	342
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	45
Russian	1	3
Austrian	1	47
Belgian .. ..	..	4
Italian	1	41
Japanese	17	300
Peruvian .. ..	..	..
Brazilian .. ..	..	4
Non-Treaty Powers	2	299
Chinese .. ..	..	..
Total	219	2,767

Chinese population estimated at 300,000

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, *Consul.*

ANNEX No. 1.

*Estimate of the Value of Property in Shanghai.**Consul Hughes to Mr. Forbes.*

Sir, *Shanghai, February 10, 1881.*
I shall be much obliged if the Chamber of Commerce can favour me with information on the following points:—

1. Gross value of foreign-owned (a) land and (b) house property in Shanghai;
2. Gross value of personal property in Shanghai belonging to foreigners;

Showing, as far as possible, the proportions held by different nationalities.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. J. HUGHES.

Mr. Forbes to Consul Hughes.

*Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai;
December 30, 1881.*

Sir,

The Committee of the Chamber regret that so long a delay has occurred in replying to your letter of the 10th February last, wherein you asked for information as to the gross value of foreign-owned land, buildings, and personal property in Shanghai. Immediate steps were taken to collect the required statistics, and up to a certain point there was no difficulty in obtaining information, but the Committee soon found that it would not be practicable to apportion ownership among foreigners of different nationalities, as requested by you. On the other hand, it appeared that, if the inquiry were somewhat extended, it might be possible to present, along with part of the figures called for in your letter, a detailed statement of the amount of invested capital and material wealth which is concentrated in Shanghai.

The Committee have accordingly attempted to arrive at an estimate of the value, not only of the land and buildings in the two foreign municipalities, but of foreign-owned properties on the outlying country roads, and of the docks, machine-shops, factories, and godowns on Pootung. They have also estimated the value, on the 1st January, 1881, of merchandize and movable property of all kinds within the above-mentioned area, and they have furthermore obtained a careful appraisal of the contents of Chinese shops and houses in the two municipalities. Many of these figures are of necessity only approximate, but the Committee believe that none will be found to err on the side of exaggeration. They have excluded from consideration the native city and suburbs of Shanghai, nor has any account been taken of the value of the public roads in the municipalities and neighbourhood. It may, however, be remarked that these roads extend over 56 miles, according to figures given by the engineers of the two municipalities, as follows:—

					Miles.
In the English settlement	..	..	..	..	20
In Hongkew	..	..	..	..	10
In the French Concession	..	..	..	..	10
Total in two Municipalities					40
Country roads	..	..	..	..	16
Total length of roads...					56

The mere cost of their construction, together with their systems of public drains, would be to-day, by careful estimate, not far from a million taels.

With these explanations I beg to submit the following statement:—

(A.)—Land, Buildings, and Municipal Property.

Foreign Settlement North of the Yang-king-pang.—As materials were not easily accessible for a separate valuation of buildings within the settlement, it was thought that the land and buildings together could be appraised with sufficient accuracy by taking the assessed rentals according to the Municipal Budget of 1881, and capitalizing them on a basis of eleven years' purchase. The value of land, however, has so greatly advanced within the present year, and so many new and improved buildings have been erected, that the Committee have taken the figures of assessed rentals

for the third quarter of the year, as published by the Municipal Council.
The result is as follows:—

	Taels.	Taels.
Foreign rentals assessed at 493,000 taels, capitalized at eleven years' purchase ..	5,423,000	say 5,425,000
Chinese rentals assessed at 1,169,255 dollars, = 877,000 taels, capitalized at eleven years' purchase	9,647,000	say 9,650,000
Value of vacant land (not including the tract within the municipal boundaries of Hongkew which still remains in Chinese hands as agricultural land)		2,525,000
Churches and cemeteries not taxed.. .. .		185,000
Public roads and jetties	90,000	
Other municipal property as per published inventory, 195,691.5.9 taels, say	200,000	
		<hr/>
Private wharves in Hongkew		290,000
Here may most properly be placed the value of the plant of the Shanghai Gas Company, say amount of the Company's capital		130,000
		<hr/>
		150,000
		<hr/>
Total value of land, buildings, and municipal property		18,355,000

French Concession.—The values of land and buildings capitalized as above from the assessed rentals would be about 3,500,000 taels, but, as the official schedule has been lately revised, the Committee have preferred to adopt the following figures, kindly furnished them by a gentleman who was engaged on the reassessment:—

	Taels.	Taels
Land.. .. .	3,000,000	
Foreign houses.. .. .	250,000	
Chinese houses.. .. .	500,000	
		<hr/>
		3,750,000
Ecclesiastical land and buildings not taxed		100,000
Municipal land and buildings	110,000	
Public bridges and jetties	56,000	
Other municipal property as per inventory	24,000	
		<hr/>
		190,000
Private wharves		140,000
Plant of French Gas Company		50,000
		<hr/>
Total value of land, buildings, and municipal property		4,230,000
Pootung: Value of four dry docks, and of machine-shops and factories, with permanent plant		570,000
Country roads: Value of foreign-owned land and of houses occupied by foreigners as ecclesiastical establishments, residences, or inns		1,200,000
		<hr/>
Total value of foreign-owned land and buildings outside of the foreign settlements		1,770,000

(B.)—*Property Afloat.*

	Taels.
Foreign opium hulks	50,000
Cargo-boats employed in foreign trade	125,000
	<hr/>
Total value of hulks and cargo-boats	175,000

(C.)—*Merchandize, Personal Effects, &c.*

In Foreign Hands.—The Committee are indebted to the agents of all local fire insurance companies for a statement of the amount of their respective insurances outstanding on the 1st January, 1881, on the contents of godowns and houses in the two municipalities and on the country roads. It is believed that the value of merchandize and movable property may be more correctly represented by these Returns than by any other mode of estimate which might have been attempted. The figures are as follows:—

	Taels.	Taels.
Contents of houses and godowns in the foreign settlement north of the Yang-king-pang and in the French Concession ..	12,300,000	
Contents of foreign houses on country roads ..	170,000	
		12,470,000
Value of opium stored in foreign hulks on January 1, 1881		1,900,000
Stocks of material and merchandize (principally kerosine oil) stored on Pootung on January 1, 1881		640,000
Total value of merchandize and personal effects in foreign hands ..		15,010,000

In Chinese Hands.—With regard to the contents of Chinese private houses, the wealthier residents have in their possession jewels, clothing, and other valuables amounting often to tens of thousands of taels. An average of 125 taels for every Chinese house will be rather under than over the mark, and this estimate has been adopted by the Committee.

For the French Concession it would appear that the contents of Chinese shops and houses may be valued with sufficient approach to accuracy by taking one-third of the corresponding figures for the other municipality:—

	Taels.	Taels.
Contents of Chinese shops (including pawn shops)	5,600,000	
Contents of Chinese private houses ..	3,000,000	
Total value of contents of Chinese shops and houses in foreign settlement north of the Yang-king-pang and in the French Concession ..		8,600,000
Estimated stock on January 1, 1881, of merchandize in Chinese hands presumably not included in the Returns of the fire insurance offices—		
Tea	763,000	
Silk	1,930,000	
Foreign piece-goods	500,000	
Metals	585,000	
	3,778,000	say 3,800,000
Total value of merchandize and personal effects in Chinese hands ..		12,400,000

(D.)—*Treasure.*

The Committee were favoured by several managers of foreign banks and by others with estimates of the amount of treasure available in Shanghai on the 1st January, 1881, the same date on which the Returns

of the fire insurance companies were taken. The figures varied considerably, but the Committee believe the following to be as nearly accurate as possible :—

	Taels.
Estimated amount of Sycee silver, dollars, and bullion in the hands of foreign and native banks and of the Chinese authorities on January 1, 1881	4,500,000

Recapitulation.

	Taels.	Taels.
A. Land and building—		
Foreign settlement north of the Yang-king-pang	18,355,000	
French Concession	4,230,000	
Country roads and Pootung	1,770,000	
		24,355,000
B. Property afloat—		
Opium hulks and cargo-boats		175,000
C. Merchandize, personal effects, &c.—		
In foreign hands	15,010,000	
In Chinese hands	12,400,000	
		27,410,000
D. Treasure—		
In foreign and Chinese hands		4,500,000
Total		56,440,000
Add for sundries, not included in above estimate, say about 1 per cent.		560,000
Grand total		57,000,000
At exchange of 5s. per tael		£14,250,000

An examination of the foregoing statement will, I think, at once show how closely interwoven are the various interests which are represented in one community. It has not, in fact, been possible even to distinguish in many cases what is foreign-owned property from what is Chinese, much less to ascertain what part belongs to each foreign nationality; but while the Committee regret their inability to furnish statistics in the exact form desired by you, they venture to hope that the information, now brought together it is believed for the first time, if it does not equally serve your purpose, may not be found without an interest and a value of its own.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. B. FORBES, *Chairman*.

ANNEX No. 2.

Report on the Shipping Trade of the Port of Shanghai for the Year 1881.

The following Tables are attached to this Report:—

No. 1. The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared under each flag for the year ended 31st December, 1881.

No. 2. Comparative Table showing number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared (distinguishing the leading flags) from 1878 to 1881, inclusive.

No. 3. The number of British vessels which have frequented the port and their movements during the year.

No. 4. The share taken by each nationality in the carrying trade from and to foreign countries.

No. 5. The share taken by each nationality in the carrying trade between Shanghai and the other Treaty ports of China.

The aggregate tonnage of all vessels that entered and cleared shows an increase of 372,943 tons, viz., from 3,317,298 tons in 1880 to 3,690,241 tons in 1881.

Increase of British Shipping.—Almost the whole of this increase is to be ascribed to the expansion of British shipping. The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared under the British flag rose from 1,689,001 tons in 1880 to 2,047,093 tons in 1881, showing an increase of 358,092 tons.

The tonnage under the flags of all other nationalities shows in the aggregate the trifling increase of 14,851 tons.

An examination of these Tables impresses one with the magnitude and rapid growth of British commerce at this port, and warrants the anticipation that the predominance of shipping under the British flag will be still more marked in the future than in the past.

On referring to Table No. 2, it will be seen that the increase in the tonnage frequenting the port of late years has been entirely owing to the growth of British tonnage, the aggregate tonnage under other flags varying little year by year. The following figures, extracted from that Table, illustrate this :—

	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Percentage of Increase.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Total tonnage entered and cleared	3,317,298	3,690,241	372,943	11½
British	1,689,001	2,047,093	358,092	21½
Other flags	1,628,297	1,643,148	14,851	less than 1

Thus, while British tonnage shows an advance in 1881 of 21 per cent. over 1880, all other nationalities show an increase of less than 1 per cent.

If the comparison be made with the year 1878, the contrast is still more striking, as the following Table shows :—

	1878.	1881.	Increase.	Percentage of Increase.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Total tonnage entered and cleared	2,961,582	3,690,241	728,659	24½
British	1,328,965	2,047,093	719,128	54
Other flags	1,632,617	1,643,148	9,531	0.5

British shipping has thus increased 54 per cent. since 1878; that under other flags only ½ per cent.

The increase of British tonnage in 1881 as compared with 1880 was entirely attributable to steamers, sailing-vessels, on the other hand, showing a slight diminution. The latter find employment chiefly in the coast trade.

The number of the tea clippers from China to England is rapidly declining. Only eight left Shanghai for London in 1881, the costly nature of the cargo (tea and silk) making the trifling difference in freight between sailing-vessels and steamers not a matter of much importance.

German shipping exhibits a slight advance, viz., from 75,450 tons in 1880 to 92,185 tons in 1881, whilst French and American figure for about the same amount as last year.

Japanese tonnage has been slowly growing of late years, and in 1881 shows an increase of about 16,000 tons over the preceding year. She now ranks third in the importance of her shipping trade at this port.

The amount of Chinese tonnage shows little deviation during the past five years. A few years ago China nearly rivalled Great Britain in the magnitude of her shipping interest in Shanghai, but now she figures for but a trifle more than half Great Britain's share. This is due not so much to a falling-off in Chinese tonnage as to the vast expansion of British tonnage mentioned above.

Foreign Freights. Steamers.—Foreign trade during the year—to judge from the rates of freight prevailing compared with previous years—must have been remunerative to ship-owners. Freights for London and New York have ruled high throughout the year, especially for the latter port.

In the spring rates to London were fixed by the "Conference" managers at 62s. 6d. for mail and 60s. for other steamers.

The "Glencoe" was the first steamer to leave Hankow for London at the opening of the tea season. She left on the 22nd May, and took a full cargo of 4,100 tons at 6l. a-ton. She was followed by the "Loudoun Castle," which loaded at 5l. per ton, and by the "Glenfruin" at 4l. Three other steamers obtained 3l. 10s., and the remainder from the river port 3l. When the last of the steamers had left Hankow, as no further competition was to be apprehended from outside steamers, the "Conference" raised their rates from Shanghai to London to 65s. for mail-steamers and 62s. 6d. for Holt's line. In the middle of June freights had still an upward tendency, reaching 70s. for mail-steamers and 67s. *et d.* by Holt's. These high rates were further increased by combination on the part of the Steam-ship Companies to 80s. for mail-steamers and 75s. for the "Holt" and "Glen" lines, which rates did not seriously decline till the month of September, when the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Meifoo" was placed on the berth for London. The "Meifoo" bidding for support at 45s. only, the "Conference" rates suddenly dropped to 50s., which continued till the close of the year.

Freights for New York were exceptionally high.

At the opening of the tea season the steam-ship "Radnorshire" loaded at 70s., but subsequently higher rates were obtained, 80s. being the rate throughout July for steamers and 50s. for sailing-vessels. Rates declined to 70s. for steamers in September, but did not fall below 65s. for the rest of the year.

Foreign Trade. Sailing-Vessels.—Eight sailing-vessels cleared for London in 1881 with full cargoes at rates of freight varying from 57s. 6d. to 45s. per ton, which probably proved remunerative.

Two or three British sailing-vessels cleared for New York with tea and silk at 45s. per ton.

Coast Trade.—On the opening of the northern ports in the spring there was a very active demand for coasting vessels, which continued till early in May, when it declined owing to the scarcity of produce for shipment at Chefoo and Newchwang, and to the high prices consequent thereon.

Two other causes militated against the success of the coast trade: (1) the action taken by the Swatow Guild, which threw the markets out of gear; and (2) the prevalence of typhoons in the summer and autumn, which proved unusually disastrous to ships and cargoes, and entailed heavy losses on ship-owners and shippers.

Difficulty at Swatow.—Early in June a deadlock was produced at Swatow owing to the introduction of a new practice by the Customs authorities there. It seems that the rule had hitherto been for the Chinese, when importing produce, to send only one cargo-boat as a muster of the whole shipment to the custom-house for inspection; but the new rule required that henceforth the whole of the cargo should be transferred to cargo-boats, and forwarded to the custom-house jetty for examination under a penalty of 100 taels.

This was of course strongly objected to by the Chinese, owing to the extra trouble and expense they would be put to. So strong did the feeling grow that the Swatow merchants refused to do business, and sent word to their agents at Shanghai, Newchwang, and Chefoo not to ship any more goods for Swatow till the obnoxious regulations were rescinded. The dispute was of long duration, and it was not till the middle of August that a compromise was effected, and even then there seems to have been left a latent dissatisfaction and want of confidence in the minds of the Chinese that prevented business from running smoothly in its old channels.

The stoppage of the trade with Swatow caused the market to be glutted with shipping in other quarters, and this excessive competition naturally led to low rates of freight being accepted.

The second cause of the general unremunerativeness of the coast trade was the prevalence of typhoons and heavy gales, which resulted in many casualties among the shipping, some of which are recorded below.

This unprofitableness was still further aggravated by the exceptionally large amount of tonnage on the coast seeking employment. 290 vessels, with a tonnage of 1,420,913 tons, were employed in the trade with other Treaty ports (see Table No. 5), as against 225 vessels with a tonnage of 1,182,212 tons in 1880, and there was no corresponding increase in the value of their cargoes.

Native exports and re-exports, in fact, fell from 34,030,556 taels in 1880 to 31,655,762 taels in 1881. Foreign re-exports, however, showed a slight improvement in value, viz., from 40,370,177 taels in 1880 to 46,677,435 taels in 1881.

Shipping Casualties—The following are some of the most serious casualties that occurred during the year:—

On the 21st January the British barque "Chinaman," lying near the Amherst Rocks at the mouth of the River Yangtze, was run into and sunk by the steamer "Craiglands," and six persons lost their lives. A boat manned by seamen from the steam-ship "Craiglands" was driven by force of wind and tide to Elliott Island, where they were very hospitably treated by the Chinese inhabitants, who took them in a junk to Gutzlaff Island, and delivered them to the care of the European residents there.

The wreck of the "Chinaman" having taken place in shallow water was an obstruction to navigation and a peril to shipping. Its removal, therefore, became of paramount importance, especially as the Chinese authorities declared it impracticable to moor a lightship on the position. The consignee of the ship had instructions from home not to part with the wreck, but to save cargo, and the insurance companies were loth to abandon their claims, so there was rather a protracted delay in freeing navigation from the danger. The result was, that it was not till early in April that the wreck was blown up by the Harbour-master and the obstruction removed.

Other Casualties.—In a typhoon which raged on the 15th July, the British schooner "Aberdonian" foundered on the Pihsha Island, in the Chusan Archipelago. Six Chinese, the only survivors, made their way to Ningpo, and subsequently to Shanghai. At the request of Her Britannic

Majesty's Consul, the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Foxhound," then in port, proceeded to the islands, and made search for the wreck, but his efforts were unavailing, and no trace has been found of the ill-fated vessel or her crew.

The British steamer "Ash," which left Nagasaki bound for Shanghai on the 23rd September, never arrived here, and there is little doubt that she foundered in a typhoon on the 25th of that month. The Russian gun-boat "Sobol," which was then stationed at Nagasaki, searched the Goto Islands for the missing ship, but without success.

The British barque "Nouveau Mondelli," which left Keelung on the 15th September, and has not since been heard of, is supposed to have gone down in the same storm.

Shanghai Shipwrecked and Distressed Mariners' Society—In connection with the loss of the "Chinaman," a fund was raised in Shanghai, chiefly through the exertions of the late Registrar of Shipping, Mr. Tapp, to reward those who had shown conspicuous bravery on the occasion of the collision, and to make provision for the families of those who had lost their lives. After all payments had been made and the accounts closed, further contributions were received from various quarters. It was decided by the Committee of Management that these surplus funds should be employed for the purpose of establishing a Society called the Shanghai Shipwrecked and Distressed Mariners' Society, which should have as its special object the relief of seamen who have suffered shipwreck. The Society has on several occasions since proved its usefulness, and bids fair to be numbered among the permanent benevolent institutions of Shanghai.

The "Conference."—Contrary to anticipation, the "Conference" has been maintained. This is a combination on the part of the six leading Steam-ship Companies to command high rates of freight, the lines interested being the "Peninsular and Oriental," the "Messageries Maritimes," the "Holtz," "Glen," "Castle," and "Shire" lines. Its operations during the year under review have been attended with a large measure of success. "Outside" steamers have been few and far between, and their appearance on the scene has been the signal for the "Guild" to lower its rates. It has thus been enabled to render the enterprise of its rivals unprofitable, and to drive them out of the market.

China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company.—The Report of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, published early in September, showed the condition of the Company to be more satisfactory than heretofore. The estimated value of the twenty-eight steamers composing the Company's fleet stood at 1,852,000 taels, the original cost being 2,720,000 taels. During the year 1880-81, no less a sum than 452,000 taels was written off for depreciation, and during the preceding year 400,000 taels was deducted on this score. For the first five years of the Company's existence no allowance was made for depreciation; the estimated value, therefore, must formerly have been a greatly inflated one; still, the large sums written off during the last two years render it probable that the value now assigned to the steamers is approximately correct. The Company also paid off Government advances to the extent of 385,000 taels. This is the more remarkable, as the Company suffered heavily from the loss of two fine steamers, the "Hochung" and the "Hankwang." The former of these foundered in a collision with Her Majesty's ship "Lapwing," and the latter stranded on the Shantung Promontory.

It may therefore be concluded that the Company is in a fairly prosperous position. The officers and engineers employed are all Europeans or Americans, the liberal treatment the Company accord them attracting men of ability into their service.

Voyage of the "Meifoo" to England.—The Company also has shown itself not deficient in enterprise. It had already in previous years dispatched vessels abroad to Honolulu and San Francisco, but last year it was daring enough to enter the lists and contend with Europeans on their own preserves.

On the 4th October, the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Meifoo" was dispatched to London with a cargo of tea. She also took on board a staff of employés for the purpose of establishing a branch of the firm in London. The experiment is said to have resulted in considerable loss to the Company, as was to be expected at first. She only obtained 45s. per ton for freight, and the managers were quite unacquainted with the requirements of the London market.

Local Ship-building.—Another large steamer has been built and engined by Messrs. Boyd and Co., of this port, for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., for employment in the Yangtze River trade. The name of the new vessel is the "Tairvo." She is the third steamer that has been locally built for this well-known firm, and is similar in all respects to the two previously constructed, except that she is of slightly larger tonnage.

Besides this, a tug-boat called the "Ewo" has been built locally for the same firm.

Formation of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company.—A noteworthy event in the shipping trade for the year has been the incorporation of a new Company, called the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company. It has purchased the fleet of steamers formerly belonging to the China Coast Steam Navigation Company, and also the three river steamers, alluded to above, belonging to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co. The new line is worked in co-operation with the "Glen" line, running between Shanghai and London, Messrs. Jardine being the agents for both Companies in Shanghai. The head office of the new Company is in London.

Foreigners on Board British Ships.—The number of foreigners acting as masters and mates of British vessels on the China coast is very large, and is likely to increase, they being, as a rule, willing to accept less pay than Englishmen. The difficulty there often exists in Shanghai in dealing with foreigners on board British ships who have committed offences other than those against the discipline of the ship deserves attention, as it happens not unfrequently that a British vessel clears without a single British subject on board.

There is a class of vessel trading on the Yang-tze River called lorchas. These vessels, though flying the British flag, are entirely managed by Chinese, the foreigner who is entered on the Registry as master merely acting as supercargo, and attending to the entering and clearing of the ship and other matters not connected with the navigation. No articles of agreement are signed by the crew, consisting of Chinese, over whom, therefore, the British authorities have no control. The master too generally happens to be a foreigner, and as such, for any misdemeanour, not amenable to British law. Hence no effective control can be exercised over vessels of this class. It is, in my opinion, desirable that in this description of craft the master at all events should be a British subject.

Work of the Shipping Office.—During the year 1881, 135 seamen have been relieved, at an expense to the Government of 3,835 dol. 87 c.; this does not include the cost of passages home of distressed British seamen; 1,640 European seamen were engaged or discharged (and many thousands of Chinese, Malays, and other Asiatics), as against 1,100 Europeans in 1880, being an increase of almost 50 per cent.

The shipping fees received during the year amounted to 7,581 dollars, as against 5,874 dol. 50 c. in 1880, thus showing a large increase.

Forty-two money orders were issued for, in all, 3,415 dol. 16 c.

Forty-three Casualty Returns were sent to the Board of Trade.

Registry Office of Shipping.—Registry fees were received during the year amounting to 519 dol 50 c.

Four steamers and 10 sailing-vessels were added to the register, aggregating 5,606 24 tons, and 5 vessels were struck off the list in consequence of wreck, sale to foreigners, or transfer to other ports, their united tonnage being 1,329·25 tons.

At the close of the year 51 vessels remained on the Register, of a total tonnage of 19,971·88 tons, as against 43 vessels and 16,317·59 tons in the preceding year.

Forty-three changes of master were noted, and 16 bills of sale and 4 deeds of mortgage recorded.

(Signed)

R. W. HURST,
Acting Registrar of Shipping.

(A.)—GENERAL TABLES.

(No 1.)—SHIPPING. Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag, for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.			
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
British	1,094	929,995	24	18,865	1,118	948,860	1,016	874,055	87	57,486	1,103	931,541	2,221	1,880,401
American	1	1,237	20	905	21	2,142	..	..	20	810	20	810	41	2,952
German	29	23,484	6	5,000	35	28,484	35	28,195	..	..	35	28,195	70	56,679
French	27	61,073	..	..	27	61,073	25	57,398	..	..	25	57,398	52	118,471
Dutch	1	616	..	..	1	616	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	616
Danish	8	6,510	6	3,976	14	10,486	9	7,681	6	3,706	15	11,387	29	21,873
Russian	1	451	2	4,323	3	4,774	1	565	2	4,323	3	4,868	6	9,662
Japanese	106	89,011	2	1,156	108	90,167	62	64,340	46	25,268	108	89,608	216	179,775
Chinese	549	526,755	36	27,149	585	553,904	575	536,759	13	10,333	588	547,091	1,173	1,100,995
Total Steamers	1,816	1,639,132	96	61,374	1,912	1,700,506	1,723	1,568,992	174	101,926	1,897	1,670,918	3,809	3,371,424

Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared, &c.—*continued*.

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.				Total.		Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.					
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
British ..	198	80,113	9	2,695	82,808	156	55,300	47	28,584	203	83,884	166,692
American ..	82	33,596	4	416	34,012	63	16,596	22	17,841	85	34,437	68,449
German ..	48	17,946	2	469	18,415	39	12,786	9	4,205	48	16,991	35,406
French ..	5	2,144	..	..	2,144	3	2,036	3	2,308	6	4,344	6,488
Dutch ..	1	616	..	..	616	..	..	2	1,232	2	1,232	1,848
Danish ..	4	1,346	..	..	1,346	2	496	1	255	3	751	2,097
Spanish ..	23	3,860	1	172	4,032	..	..	23	4,259	23	4,259	8,291
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	416	..	..	416	1	416	..	..	1	416	832
Japanese ..	1	441	..	..	441	..	..	..	..	..	..	441
Siamese ..	4	1,911	..	..	1,911	4	1,692	..	..	4	1,692	3,603
Chinese ..	138	11,911	..	..	11,911	122	9,888	17	2,871	139	12,759	24,670
Total Sailing Vessels.	505	154,300	16	3,752	158,052	390	99,210	124	61,555	514	160,765	318,817

Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared, &c.—continued.

TOTAL STEAMERS AND SAILING-VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.						Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	1,292	1,010,108	23	21,560	1,325	1,031,668	1,172	929,355	134	86,070	1,306	1,015,425
American ..	83	34,733	24	1,321	107	36,054	63	16,596	42	18,651	105	35,247
German ..	77	41,530	8	5,469	85	46,999	74	40,981	9	4,205	83	45,186
French ..	32	63,217	..	..	32	63,217	28	59,434	3	2,308	31	61,742
Dutch ..	2	1,232	..	..	2	1,232	..	..	2	1,232	2	1,232
Danish ..	12	7,856	..	3,976	18	11,832	11	8,177	7	3,961	18	12,138
Spanish ..	23	3,860	1	172	24	4,032	..	..	23	4,259	23	4,259
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	416	..	..	1	416	1	416	..	..	1	416
Russian ..	1	451	..	4,323	3	4,774	1	565	2	4,323	3	4,888
Japanese ..	107	89,452	2	1,156	109	90,608	62	64,310	46	25,268	108	89,608
Siamese ..	4	1,911	..	..	4	1,911	4	1,692	..	..	4	1,692
Chinese ..	687	538,666	36	27,149	723	565,815	697	546,646	30	13,204	727	559,850
Grand Total ..	2,321	1,793,432	112	65,126	2,433	1,858,558	2,113	1,668,202	298	163,481	2,411	1,831,683
												3,690,241

British Registry Office of Shipping for China and Japan.

(Signed)

R. W. HURST, Acting Registrar.

(No. 2).—COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag, from 1878 to 1881.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,187	1,097,018	1,555	1,309,505	1,845	1,516,860	2,321	1,880,401
American	127	41,518	82	21,606	52	17,688	41	2,952
German	63	51,316	51	37,876	73	56,916	70	56,679
French	52	115,907	53	118,786	54	119,669	52	118,471
Japanese	107	115,787	139	130,334	186	161,127	216	179,775
Chinese	1,428	1,088,836	1,167	1,045,523	1,319	1,122,532	1,173	1,100,995
Other nationalities	57	49,078	16	10,742	43	81,574	36	32,151
Total	3,021	2,559,455	3,063	2,674,271	3,472	3,026,368	3,809	3,371,424

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	463	231,947	419	222,194	409	172,141	410	166,693
American	313	92,652	189	72,278	187	55,853	171	68,449
German	91	26,777	141	52,173	76	18,534	98	35,466
French	1	393	9	2,945	3	987	11	6,488
Japanese	17	7,135	18	7,974	7	3,093	1	441
Chinese	333	24,703	414	33,066	330	26,384	277	24,670
Others	110	18,528	123	17,781	65	13,940	67	16,671
Total	1,227	402,127	1,313	388,411	1,079	290,932	1,035	318,817

TOTAL STEAMERS AND SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,649	1,328,965	1,974	1,511,699	2,254	1,689,001	2,631	2,047,093
American	340	134,170	271	93,884	239	73,541	212	71,301
German	154	78,093	192	90,049	149	75,450	168	92,185
French	53	116,299	62	121,731	57	120,656	63	134,959
Japanese	124	122,915	157	138,308	193	164,220	217	180,316
Chinese	1,761	1,113,539	1,581	1,078,588	1,549	1,148,916	1,450	1,125,665
Others	167	67,601	139	28,523	110	45,514	103	38,822
Total	4,248	2,961,582	4,376	3,062,682	4,551	3,317,293	4,844	3,690,241

(Signed) R. W. HURST, Acting Registrar.

*British Registry Office of Shipping
for China and Japan.*

(Table 3.)—RETURN showing the Movements of British Vessels at the Port of Shanghai during the Year 1881.

				Inwards.	Outwards.
Chinese Coast ports ..	..	..	..	491	519
Yangtsze River ports ..	..	..	..	298	358
Japan ..	..	..	..	197	174
Antwerp ..	..	..	..	6	..
Great Britain ..	..	..	..	110	90
Hong Kong ..	..	..	..	146	96
India, Straits Settlements, and Siam ..	..	..	..	28	15
Philippines ..	..	..	..	2	12
Java ..	..	..	..	..	1
British America ..	..	..	..	6	8
United States ..	..	..	..	1	28
Australian Colonies ..	..	..	..	39	2
Asiatic Russia ..	..	..	..	1	1
Total ..	..	..	..	1,325	1,306
Number of Crew ..	..	..	..	44,966	44,659

(Signed) R. W HURST, *Acting Registrar.**British Registry Office of Shipping
for China and Japan.*

(No. 4.)—SHARE taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries.

1. The Import and Export Trade, carried on under Foreign Flags, from and to Foreign Countries, was divided between them as follows :—

FOREIGN IMPORT TRADE.

Flag.	Tonnage Inwards.			Values.		Duties.	
	Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Foreign Imports.	Import Duties.	Tonnage Dues.
British	168	176,185	411	370,279	Hk. taels.	Hk. taels m. c. c.	Hk. taels m. c. c.
American	21	21,569	29	26,892	53,310,056	2,488,179 0 6 8	76,627 5 0 0
German	35	22,488	49	31,829	917,153	29,554 3 2 7	9,465 6 0 0
French	14	26,337	31	62,976	2,071,500	70,084 4 4 0	8,347 6 0 0
Dutch	1	616	2	1,232	5,713,437	266,810 0 1 1	5,937 2 0 0
Danish	6	4,359	9	6,795	22,631	660 6 2 0	492 8 0 0
Spanish	..	..	..	..	76,235	4,166 5 7 9	1,119 6 0 0
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian	2	2,953	3	4,774	3,014	31 2 7 5	166 4 0 0
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,729 2 0 0
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	10	7,389	109	90,608	4,108,103	145,471 9 5 7	6,002 0 0 0
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	4	1,911	4	1,911	41,300	1,756 2 8 4	518 8 0 0
Chinese	1	1,284	1	1,284	1,065,721	70,584 9 1 4	..
Total	263	265,507	649	598,996	67,329,150	3,077,289 4 7 5	110,406 7 0 0

Share taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries—continued.

FOREIGN EXPORT TRADE.

[Flag.	Tonnage Outwards.				Values.			Duties.
	Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Native Exports.*	Re-exports.†		
						Foreign.	Native.	
British ..	143	148,632	273	219,813	Hk. taels. 3,149,278	Hk. taels. 563,589	Hk. taels. 13,010,887	Hk. taels m. c. c. 104,065 6 7 5
American ..	23	23,452	27	25,429	72,569	34,551	692,165	1,149 5 2 8
German ..	10	6,987	11	7,212	66,665	50,193	466,329	2,565 8 9 6
French ..	12	24,204	28	60,806	9,390,178	51,570	2,466,876	245,025 1 4 6
Dutch ..	2	1,232	2	1,232	..	..	..	..
Danish ..	3	1,891	3	1,891	54	4,175	57,353	290 2 8 2
Spanish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	..	..	1,179	..	..
Russian ..	2	2,386	2	2,386	..	..	39,027	..
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	10	7,389	108	89,608	2,932,091	957,668	774,355	89,679 7 4 2
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	1	346	1	346	41,938	..	1,422	386 7 4 1
Chinese ..	2	2,047	2	2,047	78,266	121,439	205,008	5,242 2 4 1
Total ..	208	218,566	457	410,770	15,731,039	1,784,384	17,713,422	448,405 2 5 1

* Original shipments direct.

† Reshipments direct.

(No. 5.)—SHARE taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade between Shanghai and the other Treaty Ports of China—*continued*.

COAST TRADE INWARDS.

Flag.	Tonnage Inwards.				Values.		Duties.
	Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Native Imports.	Foreign Imports.	
British	78	51,050	914	661,389	Hk. taels. 24,432,181	Hk. taels. 463,898	Coast Trade Duties : Import Duties on Foreign Goods Re-entered Included. Hk. taels m. c. c. 126,634 1 4 7
American	21	2,340	78	9,162	269,818	903	2,012 7 4 0
German	13	4,283	36	15,170	390,423	9,549	3,109 1 5 2
French	1	241	1	241	16,739	..	..
Dutch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	4	1,501	9	5,037	101,866	..	1,335 0 5 9
Spanish	5	867	24	4,032	124,385	162	1,365 2 0 0
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	..	..	..	129 1 6 0
Russian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	..	..	..	..	239	197	..
Chinese	26	20,678	722	564,531	18,462,866	440,294	59,216 5 3 8
Total	148	80,960	1,784	1,259,562	43,798,517	915,003	193,801 9 9 6

(Signed) R. W. HURST, Acting Registrar.

British Registry Office of Shipping for China and Japan.

ANNEX No. 3.

Report on the Mixed Court, Shanghai.

There is little of importance to note in the criminal cases that came before the British Assessor at the Mixed Court in the year 1881, except the scarcity of crime of a grave character and the immunity that is enjoyed by foreigners from assaults with violence. Of the two cases of homicide mentioned in the Police Report, published by the Municipal Council, as occurring within the settlement, one was undoubtedly accidental. Assaults with violence and intent to commit serious injury have been rare, and on foreigners unknown. It is true that foreigners have occasionally been hustled and knocked about, but the damage that they have received has been slight. The number of burglaries that have been committed is large, but to effect a burglary in an ordinary Chinese house there is little required further than to remove the staple to which the lock of the door is secured, or to force in a door or window by a slight pressure of the shoulders. In foreign houses no burglaries have been perpetrated with any success. Foreign shipping has not been so fortunate, and some large robberies of silver and other valuables have been committed upon them. Servants' quarters in foreign houses have been broken into more than once, but their masters' houses have remained secure. This security is undoubtedly due to the strength of the police force and to the watch that is kept by it on old offenders. As a large section of the criminals brought before the Court is composed of men not natives of Shanghai, it is easy to rid the settlement of their presence by deportation, and though some of these old offenders return to their haunts, they naturally endeavour not to bring themselves again before the notice of the police.

The number of children convicted of petty larcenies has been considerable, and their punishment is a question of some difficulty. If sent to prison and forced to consort with men of the worst type, there is little hope of their eventual reform. They are generally orphans, or have been deserted by their parents, and there is consequently no relation who can be made responsible for their good behaviour. As a rule, they receive a certain number of blows on the hand with a ruler, and are dismissed with a caution, but their reappearance is a proof that the punishment is not effectual. The Refuge that has been established by the Magistrate of the Court, and which is excellently conducted, is not intended for the reception of children, and its accommodation is insufficient, though it has been recently extended, and provides lodging for 200 inmates.

The magistrate has been willing to listen to my representations against the use of the cangue and bamboo, and has been willing to substitute imprisonment for flogging and exposure in the cangue, except where violence has been used towards helpless persons or children, or where it has seemed impossible to dispense with the publication of the offence and its punishment in the manner most natural to a Chinese mind. In all, the bamboo has only been used four times, and a hundred blows is the heaviest punishment that has been inflicted; ten prisoners have been placed in the cangue. The whole number of cases that have been heard is 1,411, including remanded cases; of these, 437 have been dealt with by the imposition of a fine, having consisted in the breach of local regulations for the good order of the settlement, or in drunkenness, gambling, and similar misdemeanours. The largest class of convictions has been for petty larceny or so-called burglary. Of these, 533 cases have been met with imprisonment for terms varying from twelve months to a few days; 313 being for less than one month, and 4 for one year. The reason of the small number

of long sentences is, however, in part the fear entertained by the magistrate of the effect of long imprisonment on the health of the prisoners.

Civil Cases.—The Table appended to this Report gives a record of the civil suits instituted in the Court, and is satisfactory as evidencing the readiness of Chinese defendants to settle just claims upon them as soon as they are threatened with an action. There can be little doubt that this is in great measure due to the knowledge that, given a just claim, judgment will be given in favour of the plaintiff.

I found it necessary in one case to protest very strongly against the judgment given, in order to allow the plaintiff liberty of appeal. He did not, however, avail himself of the right. The case was one of non-fulfilment of contract, in failing to take delivery of a consignment of lead. Considerable grace had been allowed to the defendant, in order to allow him to fulfil his engagements. The result was that a large portion of the claim was for expenses incurred in storage and insurance and for interest. The magistrate positively refused to recognize the justice of the whole of these charges being borne by the defendant, though extension of the term of delivery had been granted at his instance. As it happened, the defendant was a British subject by birth, though he did not claim the benefit of his nationality, and the fact was not known until after the hearing of the suit.

Another case is noticeable for the fact that though a large sum had been paid on account at the time of forming the contract, and an additional amount had been paid in order to obtain an extension of the term fixed for taking delivery of the goods (ebony), the total amount paid only half covered the claim for damages, when swollen by godown rent, insurance, and interest. After some months' imprisonment the defendant was discharged, as apparently unable to pay anything towards the satisfaction of the judgment debt.

Some extra work has been thrown on to the magistrate this year through the provisions of the Order in Council of 1881, which require that the consent in writing of the Chinese authority should be given to the submission of his National to the jurisdiction of the Summary and Supreme Courts, if he desires to institute a suit there. The work of the magistrate is always very heavy, and any addition to it would be very burdensome; but it would, I think, be of great advantage to commercial interests if bonds, contracts, and similar instruments affecting Chinese could be easily attested and registered in his Court.

It is impossible to close this Report without acknowledging the extreme courtesy and consideration that I have always received from the Magistrate of the Mixed Court, as well when my opinion has agreed with his as when our judgments have been opposed.

(Signed)

W. R. CARLES,

Late Assessor at the Mixed Court

Peking, April 12, 1882.

RETURN of Civil Cases heard at the Mixed Court at Shanghai, for the Year ended 31st December, 1881.

Case Number.	Plaintiff.	Defendant.	Plaint or Claim.	Judgment.	Paid.		Remarks.
					Dollars.	Tsals.	
476	Ilbert and Co. ...	Hsieh Hsing ...	98-81 tsals, debt for goods as per contract	To take delivery ...	...	92-44	Settled out of Court.
475	W. Hewett and Co. ...	Dong Sing Sang ...	241 64 tsals, debt ...	For plaintiff ...	...	50	Ditto
476	Primrose and Co. ...	Jung Hsuan Ting ...	50 tsals, Judgment debt ...	Ditto ...	...	645	Ditto
477	Francis and Co. ...	Chiang Yu Chang ...	85 tsals, rent ...	...	...	...	Ditto
478	Llewellyn and Co. ...	Leasee ...	35 dol. 25 c., goods supplied	...	...	...	Ditto
479	Ditto ...	Y. Cheng Chong ...	142 dol. 50 c., ditto...	...	...	...	Bargain money, 1,100 tsals, forfeited.
480	Ditto ...	Ching Chong ...	135 dollars, ditto ...	For plaintiff, 1,915-51 tsals	...	...	No assets to pay remainder due
481	Gibb, Livingston, and Co. ...	Chang Woo ...	5,473 tsals, non-fulfilment of contract	For plaintiff, 1,915-51 tsals	...	...	(851-51 tsals).
482	D. Sassoon, Sons, and Co. ...	Ching Kee and Walzung-fah	Non-acceptance of goods as per contract	For plaintiff; damages to be recovered from Ching Kee	...	900	Damages paid out of Court.
483	"Tyne" ...	"Chin Yuen Hang"	Collision case ...	...	...	...	150 tsals paid out of Court.
484	J. Simpson ...	Pan Yuen Chang ...	200 tsals, personal damages	...	...	...	Settled out of Court.
485	Wilkinson and Co. ...	Cheng Ta ...	Non-fulfilment of contract	...	...	...	Ditto
486	Fung Hing Hong ...	Wan Shan ...	161-76 tsals, goods delivered	...	...	...	Ditto
487	Ditto ...	Huang Chi ...	532-239 tsals, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto
488	Ditto ...	Tung Hsieh Tai ...	79-404 tsals, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto
489	Ditto ...	T. Chu ...	412-405 tsals, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto
490	Ditto ...	Chieh Chun ...	739-804 tsals, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto
491	Primrose and Co. ...	Tung Ho ...	Non-acceptance of goods, value 1694, lib 54.	For defendant	...	...	Assessor protested against the principle on which judgment was based.
492	Chapman, King, and Co. ...	Li Chih Chi ...	Non-fulfilment of contract	For plaintiff. Half of loss and expenses. Interest allowed	...	976	Settled out of Court.
493	H. Lester ...	Yeh Lo Shan ...	Rent, 96 dol. 40 c.	For plaintiff...	...	...	To be paid in monthly instalments of 7 dol. 50 c.
494	S. J. Solomon ...	Su Shih ...	Ditto, 113 dollars ...	For plaintiff...	...	...	Settled out of Court.
495	Primrose and Co. ...	Sheng Chang ...	48-50 tsals, cheque dishonoured...	For plaintiff...	...	150	Settled privately.
496	R. Anderson and Co. ...	Haich Cheng ...	Non-fulfilment of contract for 853-93 tsals	For plaintiff...	...	...	48 dollars to be paid in monthly instalments of 10 dollars.
497	Ditto ...	Shen Hui Chi ...	Ditto for 5,539-66 tsals ...	For plaintiff...	...	...	Compromise accepted by plaintiff.
498	S. J. Solomon ...	A-Su ...	Rent, 138 dollars ...	For plaintiff, 63 dollars	...	90	Settled out of Court.
499	Fung Hsing ...	Su Ching Sheng, Wu Wei Chuan	Security for losses of 150 dollars...	Ditto, 156 dollars	100	...	
499	Ditto ...	Chai Tzu Fu ...	Promissory note, 150 tsals	...	...	...

JAPAN. No. 1 (1882).

COMMERCIAL REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS

IN

J A P A N :

1881.

PART I.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1882.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.
1882.

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Japan : 1881.*

PART II.

KANAGAWA.

Report on the Trade of Kanagawa for the Year 1881.

Consul Enslie to Sir H. Parkes.

Sir,

Kanagawa, July 6, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to furnish you with my Report upon the trade of this port for the year ended the 31st December, 1881, based upon the accompanying Returns :—

1. Return of the Import Trade.
2. Return of the Export Trade.
3. Return of Shipping.
4. Return of Treasure imported and exported.
5. Return of Duties, Shipping Dues, Storage Charges, and Miscellaneous Fees collected by the Japanese Custom-house authorities.
6. Return of the number of British and Foreign Residents and Firms.

These Returns have, with the exception of those of treasure imported and exported, and of foreign residents, been compiled from the semi-annual statistics published by the Bureau of Customs.

The trade of this port during the past year compares with that of 1880 as follows :—

				1881.	1880.
				Dollars.	Dollars.
Imports	..	..	..	21,472,026	20,348,108
Exports	..	..	..	21,164,664	19,577,913.
				42,626,690	44,921,021
1881—				Dollars.	
Decrease in imports	4,871,082
Increase in exports	2,576,751
Actual decrease of trade				..	2,294,331

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IMPORTS IN 1881.					
Decrease—					Dollars.
Cotton manufactures	1,476,014
Woollen ditto	666,538
Mixed cotton and woollen ..	..	..	..	..	538,192
Metals ..	..	..	..	..	124,512
Arms and ammunition..	..	..	..	..	136,740
Miscellaneous—					
Foreign ..	..	..	..	..	1,663,914
Local ..	..	..	..	..	265,172

EXPORTS IN 1881.					
Increase—					Dollars.
Silk ..	..	..	..	..	2,704,242
Cocoons ..	..	..	..	..	341,654
Copper ..	..	..	..	..	3,338
Wax ..	..	..	..	..	7,174
Tobacco ..	..	..	..	..	11,349
Rice ..	..	..	..	..	12,377
Lacquered ware ..	..	..	..	..	66,716
Earthenware and porcelain ..	..	..	..	..	247,366
Fans ..	..	..	..	..	8,675
Shippoki ..	..	..	..	..	21,137
Paper ..	..	..	..	..	42,856
Silk manufactures ..	..	..	..	..	37,512
Decrease—					
Silkworm-egg cards ..	..	..	..	..	679,881
Tea ..	..	..	..	..	234,821
Dried fish ..	..	..	..	..	76,433

The above figures show that the trade of this port for the past year does not, as a whole, compare favourably with that of 1880, though it is interesting to note that, notwithstanding the temporary stagnation in the silk trade, to which allusion will be made further on, the export of silk and cocoons for 1881 shows an increase of upwards of 3,000,000 dollars over that for 1880; a large increase, amounting to nearly 400,000 dollars, is also noticeable in the export trade in Japanese paper, lacquered, porcelain, and enamel ware.

That the export of silkworm-egg cards shows a decrease of nearly 700,000 dollars must be a source of congratulation to those interested in the silk trade of Japan, and it would be well for the country if this branch of foreign commerce were to cease entirely.

In order to facilitate a comparison between the present foreign trade of this port and that existing for some time past, I have prepared comparative Tables of imports and exports extending over the last five years.

IMPORTS.

Trade during 1881 in the important staples of yarns and shirtings cannot be said to have been of a very satisfactory character, even though remunerative transactions in these articles did take place during the last six or seven months of the year.

The same has been the case with nearly all other goods; a dragging market, and but little demand. Rapid depreciation and fluctuations in "kinsatsu," or Japanese paper currency, have again occurred, and were credited with by far the greater part of the disorganization of the first five months. In the latter half of the year the block in the silk trade for some time completely paralyzed trade.

Yarn.—The amount of business done during the past year is, judging from the Chamber of Commerce statistics of deliveries, rather lower than that for 1880; 28/32's have been in less request, and this is also the case

with Bombay yarns; but there has been a slight increase in other numbers.

The following figures will show the deliveries for the last three years, and the course of prices for the season 1881 :—

DELIVERIES.

				1881.	1880.	1879.
				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
16/24's ..	..	..		137,373	135,741	127,928
28/32's ..	..	..		47,332	55,465	48,333
38/42's ..	..	..		15,850	14,264	12,613
Bombays ..	..	..		27,298	27,406	51,525
				227,853	232,876	240,399

Of the above in 1881 there were delivered :—

16/24 Reverse ..	..	..	..	..	..	Piculs. 5,481
32 Double ..	..	..	..	..	..	5,119
42 „ ..	..	..	..	..	..	6,175

Prices for the best English water twist averaged during 1881 :—

				16/24.	28/32.	38/42.
January ..	..	..		33½	36½	40
February ..	..	..		33	36½	40
March ..	..	..		33	35½	39
April ..	..	..		32	34	37½
May ..	..	..		31½	32½	36
June ..	..	..		32½	34	40
July ..	..	..		33½	35½	40
August ..	..	..		33	34½	40
September ..	..	..		33½	36	39
October ..	..	..		33½	35½	38½
November ..	..	..		33½	36	39
December ..	..	..		33½	35½	37

Good 16/24 mock and water and 28/32's have ruled comparatively in the same order. Doubled 32's and 42's have been somewhat irregular according to the supply; the reported sales of these rather exceed those for the previous year, whilst 16/24 reverse are rather less.

As will be seen from the foregoing quotations, the yarn market here showed great depression from January until the end of May, with a moderate run of transactions. From that time until the close of the year a good business was, however, done, with occasional intervals of quiet, the most notable being during the block in silk.

In staple qualities of 16/24 most of the fall since January was recovered step by step; but the distance between these and lower qualities, or even good current mock, widened considerably, and the latter, which had previously always been saleable, appears to have gone out of demand almost entirely, and was quoted only at very low figures; 28/32's, while generally sharing the depression felt by 16/24's, have not been affected by the more buoyant times. The market has generally been a dragging one, and prices were disproportionately low. In 38/42's the exhaustion of

stocks during the summer caused an impetus, and prices were for a time well sustained.

Bombay yarns continued saleable, being cleaner and better suited for dyeing purposes. Deliveries would doubtless have shown an increase, if it had been shipped in assortments similar to the English spinnings, and provided also that the 22 and 24 counts were as suitable for Japanese requirements as the 20's. The bulk of the business was in 20's, but some transactions took place in coarser sizes down to 10's, and a little was also done in 22's and 24's; finer than that Bombay yarn finds no favour with Japanese buyers. A very little doubled 20's has been sold at about 33 dollars; but it is doubtful if that price is satisfactory to producers. As will be seen, the trade is holding its own well as regards 1880, but there has been a great falling-off since 1879.

Grey Shirtings.—The recorded deliveries, taken from the Chamber of Commerce Returns, are:—

				1881.	1880.
				Pieces.	Pieces.
8½ lbs.	..	..	..	171,890	151,269
9 lbs.	..	..	..	562,381	615,949
				734,261	767,218

This shows an increase in 1881 of 20,521 pieces in 8½ lbs., and a decrease in 9 lbs. of 53,568 pieces as compared with 1880; 7 lbs. have almost entirely disappeared out of the market; 8½ lbs. have fluctuated very little.

During the first five months of the year 9 lbs. steadily weakened, until in May they were quoted 2 dol. 5 c. for common up to 2 dol. 40 c. for best. As in the case with yarns, shirtings began to recover at that time, and in July reached 2 dol. 20 c. and 2 dol. 60 c. Towards the end of the year stocks became exhausted, good quality being particularly scarce; best were then at from 2 dol. 75 c. to 2 dol. 80 c., while common stood at 2 dol. 25 c. and 2 dol. 30 c.

It should be here noted that both in yarns and shirtings a large portion of the sales is for arrivals more or less distant, and generally at a reduction on ruling rates. Japanese dealers must have, during the latter part of the year, made a profit out of their contracts, as the general course of the market had an upward tendency.

T-Cloths.—There has again been a moderate business in this article, and prices fluctuated between 1 dol. 45 c. and 1 dol. 65 c.

Indigo Shirtings have been slow of sale during a great part of the year, with some little demand in the autumn, when prices, which had fallen, rose again to what they were at the commencement of the year—1 dol. 55 c. to 1 dol. 63½ c.

Prints.—Common qualities have remained at a low range of value; suitable kinds were, however, in fair request, at prices of a slightly upward tendency.

Cotton Italians have been very dull.

Black Velvets steadily declined from the quotation of 7 dol. 50 c. for current quality, with which they started, to 6 dol. 50 c. In June some recovery took place, and 7 dollars was reached in September. The demand, however, has not been large, and prices have again declined.

Turkey Reds have been no better than most of the fancy goods; nevertheless, the business done seems to have been larger than in 1880.

and it may be noted that $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. were in some favour during the autumn. Prices have steadily declined.

Victoria Lawns started with a promise of some improvement, and 75 cents were obtainable for good quality. Prices declined, however, as the season advanced.

Woollens and Worsteds.—The past year has been a very unsatisfactory one for these articles.

Mousselines de Laine.—This important article has been dull of sale throughout, and prices have continually declined, closing in average for plain crepes at, say, 1 cent to $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per yard lower than at the commencement.

Black Orleans (plain and figured) have also been generally dull and depressed, with falling quotations.

Italian Cloth has presented a rather more favourable aspect, and good qualities have met with fair demand, though at low prices.

Cloth has had a very unsatisfactory year. It was saleable for a short time only, and even then in small quantities. Cheap kinds were chiefly in favour.

Blankets were but moderately saleable, light weights only are now wanted.

Metals.—A fair business has been done throughout the year, though at constantly falling prices, which can scarcely be said to have been remunerative.

	January.		December.	
	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.
Flat and round iron per picul	2 60	3 10	2 50	2 85
Nail-rod "	2 55	3 30	2 30	3 17
Tin plates "	5 50	5 60	4 80	4 90

Kerosine still continues to be an important article under miscellaneous foreign imports. In January a considerable business was done at fair prices; but from the end of that month till the beginning of July the demand was light, and prices fell. Then came an improvement with better quotations; but a Government Notification appearing about the end of August, to the effect that the retail trade in oil under 120° flash would not be permitted after the 1st January, 1882, caused an entire suspension of business. This interdict was later on somewhat modified by an announcement that the time formerly fixed would be prolonged until the 1st September, 1882, the test being reduced to 115°. Business, however, still continued dull, for although there was some demand, holders, expecting higher quotations, remained firm. Towards the end of the year a large business was done in all brands at advancing prices of from 2 dol. 40 c. to 2 dol. 56 c. per 10-gallon case. The lowest quotation throughout the year was 1 dol. 70 c.

According to the "New York Maritime Register," the export from the United States to Japan of kerosine oil has increased very considerably; shipments during 1881 amounted to 1,222,413 cases, as against 526,731 cases in the preceding year.

Chemicals, &c.—The trade in drugs, medicines, dyes, and chemicals generally has developed very much of late. Twelve years ago one firm only was engaged in this class of business, whereas during the past three years nearly every house in Japan has more or less attempted the importation of these goods. The Japanese Government have been very successful in their endeavours to introduce Western medical science, and from the last

published Report of the Sanitary Bureau, comprising the period from the 1st July, 1877, to the 30th June, 1878, many interesting statistics are obtainable regarding their progress in this direction.

The business done in these goods may be classified under two heads, viz.: for medicinal purposes and for manufactures. The former comprise drugs, roots, barks, and chemicals as described in the Pharmacopœia; and the latter, alkalies, essential oils, heavy chemicals, dyes, drysalteries, dye-wood, extracts, &c.

With reference to the trade in chemicals, purely for medicinal purposes, a considerable change has taken place of late in the way in which the requirements of the market are met. In former years these goods were imported ready made, and put up in convenient packages for immediate use in dispensing, but of late, owing to the encouragement given by the Government, the Japanese have been in a position to prepare most of the articles themselves, the raw material only being imported. The trade in pharmaceutical extracts, tinctures, scale preparations, &c., has therefore come to an end; instead of these, chemicals, roots, herbs, &c., have been imported in bulk, in many cases direct from the producing countries instead of, as in former years, from England. Then, too, owing to the conservative and independent position assumed by many of the English manufacturers, this trade is being driven from England to the Continent of Europe, and German manufacturers are enjoying a large and steadily increasing share of the import trade in many chemicals used in medicinal preparations.

Santonine is one of the most important articles, and annual imports vary from 120,000 to 180,000 ounces; it is prepared almost entirely in Germany, and has proved very unprofitable to importers during the past year.

Quinine.—That the consumption of this article is not so large as might be expected is due to the fact that the bulk of the population in Japan is too poor to pay for such an expensive drug, and the cheaper cinchona alkaloids are sold in place of it. English-made quinine does not appear in this market; that principally imported is prepared in Milan. Then comes German, and after that Pelletier's muriate cinchonine is imported in large quantities.

Iodide Potassium, principally English and French preparations, is largely consumed, but the business done has not been satisfactory. This is the case with many other leading articles.

Bromide Potassium is one of the few articles supplied from America; the annual consumption is about 25,000 lbs. During the early part of the year the market was dull, and prices ranged from 35 to 40 cents per lb. in 1-lb. bottles; towards the end of the season there was an increased demand, resulting in profitable transactions.

Morphia.—Its consumption has largely increased within the last two years. The supply of this market is almost entirely in the hands of English makers, owing to the superior appearance and quality as compared with that made in Germany. Prices here, as in Europe, have fluctuated very much, beginning at 2 dol. 70 c. per oz., and falling down to 2 dol. 10 c.

Carbolic Acid.—During the cholera epidemic, 1878-79, this article was largely imported, but with its disappearance the demand has ceased. Importers have large stocks on hand, and Japan must be considered a very uncertain market.

Sundries.—Tartaric acid, alcohol, bismuth, chloroform, &c., are in steady demand in Japan.

The trade in alkalies and heavy chemicals, used for manufacturing

purposes, is far more important than that in medicinal chemicals. It is well known that, in order to restrict the importation of foreign-made goods and at the same time give employment to their own people, the Japanese Government have for several years past zealously promoted the manufacture, not only of these articles, but also of innumerable other goods required for Japanese consumption. With these objects in view, they have done everything to encourage the consumption of home-made goods, even at an increased cost to the country. This has resulted in a large demand for the raw material, thus very considerably increasing the trade in many of the heavier kinds of chemicals, and also causing a large consumption of dye-stuffs, &c.

English manufacturers have the entire control of the alkali and heavy chemical trade, while Germany has, to a great extent, monopolized that of dyes; such articles as chlorate potash, caustic soda, soda ash, bicarbonate soda, bleaching powder, sugar of lead, and bichromate potash have also met with a gradually increasing demand.

Under the heading of dyes, extract of logwood obtains the most important position, and the consumption now amounts to 6,000 or 7,000 cwt. per annum, the prices for the quality required on this market ranging, during the past year, between 11 dollars and 11 dol. 25 c. per cwt., with a steady demand. This article is principally imported from France, and though small quantities occasionally arrive from America, nearly the whole of this business is done by one English firm.

Aniline (violet) is also in large request, being used, in conjunction with logwood, for the dyeing of silk fabrics, &c., of Japanese manufacture. Among other goods under this heading may be mentioned ultramarine, Chinese blue, cochineal, yellow chrome, tin crystals, fustic, and logwood chips, all of which now figure among the imports to Japan.

Although business has, as already stated, greatly increased, it has at the same time been very much overdone. The bulk of the trade is done by English firms, but Germans are gradually and steadily extending their operations; the trade with the United States of America is very small, and, with the exception of potassium, resin, and borax, really amounts to nothing.

The Japanese prefer goods of English preparation, and if manufacturers comply with the requirements of this market it will doubtless prove to be an important outlet for their goods; it should, however, be borne in mind that they have powerful competitors in German merchants, who, in addition to their well-known scientific attainments in the manufacture of chemicals, are now turning out articles of quite as good a quality as those coming from England, and in many cases at very much lower prices.

Sugar.—The new crop began to arrive in Japan about the end of January; the quantity produced in Formosa was short of the average, but the good demand existing for export to this country caused the deficiency to be mostly felt by other markets.

On the 1st January, 1881, there was a stock of old Formosa sugar amounting to 46,000 piculs. Imports during the year were 246,400 piculs, valued at 1,000,000 dollars, against an import of 290,000 piculs in 1880, representing a value of about 1,100,000 dollars. The sales during 1881 reached a total of 274,000 piculs, leaving an unsold stock of about 18,400 piculs at the close of the year. Prices opened in February at 4 dol. 40 c. per picul, but fell to 3 dol. 90 c. and 4 dol. 10 c. in July and August; they, however, rose again during the autumn months, and at the end of 1881 stood at 4 dol. 40 c. to 4 dol 50 c. per picul.

The greater portion of this trade is in the hands of Chinese, the remainder being done by two or three foreign firms.

The white sugars consumed in Japan mostly come from Hong Kong, consisting of Hong Kong refined sugar, which is largely used, and of Canton white kinds.

The total import of white sugar for 1881 was about 190,800 piculs, nearly all of which was disposed of, leaving an unsold stock on the 31st December last of only 15,000 piculs.

A small quantity of Manila sugar, other brown kinds, and of sugar candy appear in the imports of the year, amounting in all to about 20,000 piculs.

Values were:—

				D. c.	D. c.
Best Hong Kong, refined	..	..	..	8 70	to 9 25
Other ditto	..	..	..	6 75	8 00
Canton, best white	..	..	..	8 00	8 50
„ other white	..	..	..	5 50	7 50
Sugar candy, Foochow	..	..	..	10 00	12 00
„ Chuchan	..	..	..	8 50	9 50

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From carefully compiled figures, the export of silk from Japan for the three years 1879 to 1881 inclusive appears to be as follows:—

	1879.	1880.	1881.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
London ..	5,960	2,748	3,937
France and Italy ..	9,455	7,642	11,743
United States ..	4,511	5,788	4,590
Total ..	19,935	16,178	20,270

So far as can be ascertained, direct export by Japanese, comprised in the above, was 4,614 bales in 1881.

What is a bale? This is a question which has arisen on former occasions, and applies equally to this Report for 1881. A bale may be, and often is, 80 catties; it may be, and frequently is, 100 catties or 1 picul, equal to 133½ lbs. Thus far, no arrangements have been made to place this matter on a satisfactory and settled basis; that it should be done must be apparent to all.

The destination of the above export for the three years is of considerable interest. London, France, and Italy may be taken together, as many parcels shipped for France are on an optional arrangement, *i.e.*, either for London or France. The export direct to the United States in 1881 compares unfavourably with that for 1880, and the only apparent explanation seems to be that Japan silks suitable for the United States come in direct competition with French and Italian, which have been relatively lower in those countries than Japan silks.

The market closed, it will be remembered, in 1880 with a somewhat brisk tone and advancing prices; quotations were as follows:—

		Dollars.
Hachioji hanks ..	.. .. about	500
2½ Maibashi ..	.. .. "	520
Good ditto ..	.. .. "	560
Fine good silature ..	.. ..	620 to 640
No. 3 ditto ..	.. ..	550 570
Good and best Kakeda ..	.. ..	560 600

In reviewing the course of prices during 1881, it may be noted that the year opened with an active business and full demand for all classes of

silk. The following figures, taken from the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce Reports, will show that the rise during the year was nearly continuous. From the producers' point of view this must be very satisfactory; but, for reasons which will be alluded to hereafter, the result has, on the other hand, been disastrous to the dealers, or middlemen.

Current quotations for silk, as given in the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce Market Reports for the year 1881, are :—

			2½ Hanks.	Good 2 Filatures.	Good 2 Kakeda.	Exchange 4 months.
1881.			Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	s. d.
January	6	..	515 to 525	600 to 620	560 to 580	3 9
"	21	..	525	600 620	560 580	3 9
February	19	..	525	600 620	560 580	3 9
"	28	..	540 to 550	620 630	580 600	3 10
March	16	..	570	640 650	630 640	3 9½
"	31	..	560 to 570	640 650	630 640	3 2½
April	19	..	530 550	640 650	600 610	3 10
May	12	..	520 530	630 640	590 600	3 10
"	25	..	510 520	630 640	(nominal) 590 to 600	3 9½
June	8	..	520 530	630 640	(nominal) 590 to 600	3 9½
"	23	..	550 560	640 660	610 630	3 9½
July	7	..	560 570	640 660	610 620	3 9½
"	26	..	560 570	670 680	..	3 10
August	10	..	545 555	660 680	..	3 9
"	24	..	565 575	670 690	640 to 660	3 9
September	8	..	590 600	700 720	660 670	3 9
"	24	..	580 590	700 720	660 670	3 9½
October	8	..	..	..	..	..
"	22	..	..	..	..	..
November	7	..	..	..	..	..
"	23	..	570 to 590	700 to 710	650 to 670	3 9½
December	8	..	570 590	700 710	650 670	3 9½
"	22	..	570 590	700 710	650 670	3 9½
						(nominal)

A fair business was done in January at firm rates, and a larger one in February at hardening prices, with considerable activity towards the end of that month. Stocks were now reduced, and fresh arrivals from the country small; in fact, there remained only the fag-end of the season. In March there was further hardening of prices, after which buyers held back. From that time till June stocks were not only so small and badly assorted, but the demand was so limited, that prices were irregular; in some cases considerable concessions were made, but desirable silks obtained full prices.

Towards the end of May and early in June, as the new crop was being raised, reports came to hand from the silk-producing districts of bad weather and a short and inferior crop. In June advices also were received that the production of silk in China and Europe would be decidedly below that of the previous season. Everything appeared, therefore, in favour of a marked advance in the general range of prices.

These points were at once grasped by the Japanese; prices opened high in the producing districts, and the unreasonableness of foreign buyers in not taking silk at prices demanded was freely discussed by Japanese dealers.

At the time this Report is being compiled it is pretty well understood that China will have for export 10,000 bales more than was at first

estimated; that Japan has a full crop, though deficient in quality; and that production in Europe has been about equal to that of the preceding season.

About June the organization of a new Silk Guild amongst the Japanese began to be discussed, the points prominently set forth being: the establishment of a central warehouse for all silk transactions, the general improvement of the trade, and the correction of certain abuses alleged to exist. Little notice was apparently taken of this by the foreign merchants. In the middle of September it was rather suddenly announced that this new Guild had been launched, under the name of "The Rengo ki ito ni adsukari Shosha," or "Silk Warehousing Association;" that it would commence business forthwith, and that for the future all transactions in silk must be made under the rules of this new Society.

Its promoters were a few of the principal silk houses, assisted by some outsiders and the whole of the silk commission firms, who joined either willingly or otherwise. Its objects were to create one general establishment and association, which would make advances on silk brought down from the country, and oblige all foreign buyers to come to its premises to inspect their purchases. It was, moreover, promised that, under its auspices, parcels of silk would be properly sorted and delivered according to the sample upon which the bargain was made, the standing complaint of foreign houses having been that no dependence could be placed upon musters. According to its rules, none but members of the Guild were to be recognized by it, and no member could do business with foreigners except according to its regulations. The Association, therefore, virtually assumed the absolute control over all silk business with foreigners.

The latter, however, viewed the new Guild with great distrust; did not consider that their previous experience warranted them in assenting to the terms on which it was now stipulated that business should be done; and learnt, moreover, that the premises provided for the purpose of inspection were utterly insufficient, as well as unsuitable.

Complications and disputes at once arose between buyers and sellers, and, virtually, all transactions in silk were suspended until the 19th November last, when a compromise was arranged; since then business has been conducted on very nearly the old terms.

The actual arrangements made were that silk the purchase of which had been contracted for by foreigners, and sent into their godowns for inspection, should be at once covered by fire insurance, and also that a contract note should be passed between buyer and seller by which the latter guaranteed that the bulk was equal in quality to the samples sold from; a promise was also made by foreign buyers to give their favourable consideration to any practicable scheme for a general warehouse which might be submitted to them.

It is fair to state that, had these points been put forward at the outset, they would have been at once conceded by the foreign buyers.

As will be seen from dates, the new system has only been tried for a short time; but, so far as can be ascertained, sellers adhere to the condition that their silk shall be covered against loss by fire while under inspection, though the contract notes are not generally asked for; the inference which foreigners draw from this is that sellers do not care to be bound to deliver silk equal to sample. The Chamber of Commerce Reports do not note the amount of silk rejected on inspection; from other sources it is, however, fully shown that the per-centage is heavy, and must seriously interfere with any good understanding between buyer and seller.

During this dispute, which occurred at a period of the year when

operations are generally conducted on an extensive scale, business being, as already mentioned, virtually suspended, the foreign and Japanese press abounded with articles on the question, and no doubt considerable feeling was shown on both sides.

From first to last, foreigners, almost without exception, refused to do business with the new Silk Guild, who appeared to have complete control over the whole of the silk in Japan; hence a dead-lock. As the dispute progressed, the intentions originally expressed by the Japanese Association appear to have been overlooked, and it almost seemed as if the question was being made a national one.

Much was said by Japanese concerning the loss of commercial rights, and a determination expressed to ship the whole of the crop to the silk-consuming markets on Japanese account. This was perfectly feasible in theory, but insurmountable financial difficulties arose; hence the compromise.

Foreigners viewed the operations of the Guild as an attempt to monopolize the entire silk trade of Japan; time alone will show whether such was the case, but up to the present the weight of evidence appears to be in favour of this supposition.

Allusion has been made to the disastrous result which this suspension of business caused to the Japanese silk-dealers, when transactions in silk first came to a standstill. Advices from the home markets were favourable, and foreign buyers prepared to pay high prices, but when the compromise was effected there was decidedly less anxiety to purchase. Foreign buyers congratulated themselves on having been the gainers by being kept out of the market; and though it can hardly be said to strictly belong to the year 1881, I may here remark that but little general business was done until holders conceded a decline of 50 dollars per picul (about 1s. 9d. per lb.), to which must be added interest, incurred to the Guild, at from 14 to 18 per cent. per annum.

This statement as to the rate of interest charged is taken from the Japanese press, and has never been challenged by the Silk Association.

A Report of this description would be incomplete without some reference to the quantity and quality of the staple article.

When the new silk was brought forward towards the end of June 1881, the crop was reported to be short, and an export of 15,000 bales was spoken of; the quantity available for export of the crop of 1881 will, however, probably be from 20,000 to 22,000 bales, less silk having been used for native consumption in 1881 than in the preceding year.

Although there are no reliable data as to increased production, it is admitted by Japanese brokers and dealers that there is a steady progressive movement, and that prices realized are highly satisfactory to the original producers, i.e., the farmers who cultivate their ground for mulberry trees and realize profits either by the sale of leaves or of cocoons.

The quality of silk reeled from the cocoons of 1880 was good, but this cannot be said of 1881; variations in weather doubtless made their influence felt, and the general quality of silk produced in 1881 must be pronounced as inferior to that of the previous year. This inferiority has been most marked in the silks known to the trade as hank descriptions, the general average of which has been below that of several former seasons; some explanation on this point appears necessary. The attention of reelers has been generally drawn to filatures, the production of which has been of late years increasing rapidly; the highest quality of cocoons is naturally selected for reeling filatures, and this will to some extent explain why "hanks" have declined in quality.

Japanese filature silks also call for a few remarks.

Their superiority to the old native reeled silks is only obtainable by greater care and attention paid to the reeling, in order to secure an even, clean thread; in many cases reelers of filatures obtain this result, but on the other hand large parcels of filatures are brought forward which have no claim to such a title, except in style of the make-up of the skeins and bundles; on examination and test a great range in size is found, frequently in the same skein. Various degrees of difference are of course met with, but its frequent occurrence, and the doubt thus cast on such silks, generally tell against them. Japanese brokers and dealers are well aware that foreign buyers have but limited means or opportunities for testing silks as to such imperfections, and as a rule have no hesitation in giving wrong descriptions of their filature silks, more particularly as to size, the result being disputes and rejections. This would seem to be a serious charge, but after careful inquiry it cannot be denied that this evil is complained of by all foreign buyers.

The fuller sized filature silks of Japan are principally sought for in the United States; manufacturers there report that of late, especially in the second half of the year under review, Italian silks were relatively cheaper and much more to be depended upon than Japanese filatures. It is to be hoped that reelers in Japan will take due notice of this, and not lose their hold on what has been a rapidly increasing market during the past few years. An all-important fact, which must on no account be lost sight of, is that a large proportion of Italian silks is produced from eggs sent from Japan.

In conclusion, it is well to place on record that Japan has to compete with Italy, particularly as regards filatures, but that she can easily do as to the cost of production, the main point being care and attention; in this she is very deficient.

The following inclosures are not entirely devoid of interest, even at this distance of time, in connection with the silk dispute which caused such a stoppage of trade:—

Appendix (C) is a translation, which appeared in the "Japan Gazette," of the rules and regulations of the Japanese Silk Association, and Appendix (D) is a translation, made in this office, of a series of articles which appeared in a native daily newspaper called the "Tōkiō Yokohama Mai Nichi Shimbun."

Waste Silks and Pierced Cocoons have again enjoyed much favour, and prices have ruled considerably higher than in 1880. The export of silk waste was 11,114 piculs, as against 10,513 piculs in 1880, that of pierced cocoons 4,234 piculs, and only 939 piculs in 1880.

Silkworm Eggs.—The supply was small, and the total export was only 374,494 cards, valued at 311,140 dollars, as compared with 530,452 cards, representing a value of 991,021 dollars, in 1880.

The system of holding was much pursued with this produce, and it was the middle of November before any serious endeavour was made to meet buyers.

Quotations then ruled 50 cents and 1 Mexican dollar for good to best, but a little later, as the season was rapidly closing, holders were glad to get any prices they could.

Tea.—A marked decline took place in the export of tea during the year 1881 as compared with that of the previous twelve months, but it is difficult to account satisfactorily for this. Throughout the year a steady demand prevailed, and prices paid by foreigners must have been fully remunerative to the growers up-country. The reports which have reached Yokohama are to the effect that the producers are possessed of such ample funds as to be quite independent; they have sold only when extreme prices

were obtainable, intending, it is said, to mix up the balance with the new crop of the season 1882. It would appear that the growers have been literally coining money, and the profits they realize on their produce, if estimated by the price which foreign purchasers pay the middleman, the only person they come in contact with, cannot be much less than 35 to 40 per cent. Thus good medium tea, which for 1881 has averaged from 21 dol. 50 c. to 22 dollars per picul, would probably cost up-country, ready prepared for transport to the Treaty ports, from 13 to 14 dollars per picul, including all charges, leaving the balance as a profit to be divided between the middleman and the grower; other grades in all probability show a relative proportion of profit.

The year 1881 opened with only a moderate amount of tea in stock in Yokohama; it was mostly of the lower grades, good medium ranging from 19 to 20 dollars per picul.

During some three months the market continued dull and quiet, prices nearly nominal, and purchases confined to teas for Pacific Coast trade or Canada, the stock on offer, as a rule, being too low in character for the general trade of the United States. Advices from that quarter were about this time most discouraging, heavy losses having been made on shipments during the latter part of 1880.

The market for new teas was fairly opened at the beginning of May, being rather later than the previous year, owing to the severity of the season; the first arrivals on the 19th April were as usual eagerly bought up at absurdly high prices, and, moreover, induced a belief that the crop was going to be a good one; later on, as supplies began to arrive freely, the quality was, however, found to compare unfavourably with that of the previous seasons, both as regards leaf and cup.

The late spring frosts, which nipped the young shoots, had somewhat injured the character of the leaf, and made it difficult to prepare the teas in the manner now required on the American market, which demands teas very similar in appearance to fine Moyune Young Hysons (green teas).

Opening prices ranged from 43 to 45 dollars per picul; then came a gradual advance until supplies arrived in large quantities about the 12th May, when shortly after, and on the departure of the first American mail-steamer on the 17th, pressing demands having been satisfied, the usual decline took place.

A very large business was done during May and June, settlements for the two months amounting to 78,400 piculs, composed chiefly of good medium, fine, and finest leaf, the demand for first crop tea being always very keen.

Towards the end of June the lower grades of tea began to arrive, but they did not meet with much attention owing to heavy losses on the previous year's shipments.

The second crop, which arrived about the middle of July, showed decided signs of better care having been bestowed up-country on the manipulation of the leaf; these teas were much more fitted to stand the process of re-firing than the first crop, and were also free from dust.

The demand this year up to the beginning of September ran chiefly on the better grades of tea, consequently stocks of common leaf accumulated; and quotations declined to a very low basis, which led to a large and speculative business at prices ranging from 4 to 15 dollars per picul.

Prices ruled lowest during the month of October, since when there has been a gradual advance, and at the close of the year quotations were as follows:—

		End of 1881.	End of 1880.
		Dollars.	Dollars.
Common, per picul ..	..	10 to 12	10 and under
Good common, ditto..	..	14 15	12 to 14
Medium, ditto ..	..	17 18	15 16
Good medium, ditto..	..	22 26	17 18
Fine, ditto..	..	28 30	20 22
Finest and choice, ditto	..	No stocks	No stocks

There have been very few third crop teas picked this year, as the low prices ruling offer little or no inducement to the native growers.

The business of the past year must, on the whole, be considered very unsatisfactory; a few early shipments of the first crop paid small profits, but subsequent ones fared very badly.

The general quality of the teas for 1881 has been inferior to that of previous seasons, and there have been many and repeated complaints about it from America. Some allowance must be made on account of the spring of 1881 having been unusually severe; but the general character of Japan teas for the past year shows that less care and attention have, as a rule, been bestowed on the preparation of the leaf than in 1880.

This may, in a measure, be attributable to the enhanced cost of labour in the country, caused by the great increase in the prices of the daily necessities of life among the labouring classes, and augmented in no small degree by Governmental taxation. The process of "sun-drying," undoubtedly increasing every year, and resorted to in order to save labour and the expense of charcoal, which has of late years doubled in price, is, however, mainly instrumental in injuring the sale of Japan teas. So prepared, the leaf has a flaky appearance, and the teas lack keeping quality, are deficient in strength and flavour, and not so well fitted to stand the necessary preparation demanded by the American market.

The popularity of Japan teas seems now seriously on trial in America, quotations for the lowest grade Japan tea usually shipped from this (that is "common") has fallen from 22 cents per lb. in 1880 to 14 cents in 1881, and though this decline must, in a measure, be attributed to the great increase of dead stock in America, yet it must be admitted that the quality of Japan tea is steadily deteriorating, thus seriously endangering this country's trade in one of its staple articles of produce.

Japan Black Tea.—This has, on the whole, proved a failure, although the production continues on a limited scale. The climate and soil of this country appear unfitted to the growth of plants producing a leaf of the quality necessary to make good black. Teas resembling red leaf Congous can be made with good and even handsome leaf, several samples being in appearance very similar to Indian teas of Pekoe class, but lacking strength, and not being nearly equal to good Chinese Foochow teas in that respect. A small amount of these teas has been shipped to Germany on native account, a German financier providing the necessary funds; but thus far the outcome of these shipments has not transpired.

The results generally of 1881 have not proved as satisfactory as those of the preceding year; the whole crop, and more particularly the first picking, shows signs of hasty and careless preparation. The amount of tea exported from Japan was decidedly in excess of the requirements of the United States and Canada, and a considerable portion of the shipments for the year had to be sacrificed at prices which did not cover laying down cost. For the future, prices here must be considerably reduced to

enable the foreign exporter to ship to the American markets with anything like a reasonable prospect of success, unless the production of Japan teas is on a more moderate scale than has been the case for the last two seasons.

Teas were distributed as follows :—

	1881.	1880.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
To New York, Boston, &c. ..	12,818,954	14,444,540
San Francisco	3,780,380	3,560,427
Chicago, &c.	2,631,050	2,926,187
Canada.. ..	2,899,146	2,924,456
England	512,105	370,123
Total	22,641,635	24,225,733

Decrease in 1881, 1,584,098 lbs.

Shipped as follows during 1881 :—

	Lbs.
By Suez steamers, English bottoms	12,589,207
O. and O. steamers, English bottoms	4,790,096
P. mail-steamers, American bottoms	2,430,406
Sailing-vessels to San Francisco	1,789,832
Ditto to New York	529,989
Suez steamer (London), English bottom	512,105
	<hr/> 22,641,635
Total in English bottoms	17,891,408
Ditto in American bottoms	4,750,227
	<hr/> 22,641,635

A circular, emanating from some of the principal tea brokers of Yokohama, and addressed to the tea cultivators in the interior of Japan, was extensively circulated in March last. The interest and importance of this document to all interested in the tea trade of this country is such that a translation of it has been added to this Report.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

The total amount of foreign shipping which entered this port during the year under review was 293 vessels, of 482,084 tons (gross), while in 1880 the number was 295 vessels, of 365,965 tons. The tonnage for 1881 is, however, "gross" throughout, whereas that appearing in the General Shipping Return for the preceding year is of a mixed character, the tonnage of British ships being "net," and that of all other foreign vessels "gross."

In order to be able to make an accurate comparison between the shipping for the years 1880 and 1881, the total tonnage of British ships, as appearing in the General Shipping Return for 1880, must be increased, so as to read 257,831 tons (gross) instead of 176,460 tons (net); it will then be seen that there has been in 1880, as compared with 1881, an increase in British shipping at this port of 10 vessels and 46,651 tons gross burthen, and a decrease in the shipping of all other foreign nationalities of 12 ships and 11,903 tons (gross).

British tonnage in 1881 was 63 per cent. of the total carrying capacity, as against 57½ per cent. in 1880.

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As in former years, the Shipping Clerk of this Consulate has prepared a Report concerning the movements of British ships at this port.

Japanese Shipping at this port (*i.e.*, foreign-rigged sailing ships and steamers) is as follows for 1880 and 1881:—

		1880.		1881.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Foreign ports ..	..	2	1,397	1	304
Coastwise to Shanghai ..	..	79	96,364	78	102,250
Total .....	..	81	97,761	79	102,554

Increase in tonnage, during 1881, 4,793 tons.

Exchange.—Sterling exchange has ruled very steady during the year under review, opening in January at 3*s.* 8*d.* per dollar for demand bank bills, and closing in December at 3*s.* 8½*d.* for the same usance.

Throughout the first quarter of the year the fluctuations were very slight, but from the end of March, when the lowest point (3*s.* 7¾*d.*) was reached, exchange commenced to rise, and gradually advanced until it touched 3*s.* 9½*d.* in May. This figure was, however, not maintained for any length of time, and from May till the end of August the fluctuation was more marked than at any other time throughout the year, being in some cases as much as 3 per cent. This was caused chiefly by the variations in silver on the London market, and not by local business requirements. During the balance of the year exchange kept moderately steady.

Japanese paper currency experienced, during 1881, fluctuations equal to those which characterized the previous year, with this important exception, however, that there was a strong downward tendency.

This resulted on various occasions in entire stoppages of business, owing to the inability of many of the Japanese speculators to meet their engagements on the Bourse. The worst feature of all was, however, that many, hitherto legitimate traders, were attracted by the illusive hope of speedy gain, devoted their time to this form of speculation, and were, in consequence, ruined, the losses caused by the non-fulfilment of their engagements ultimately falling on foreigners.

The following remarks and quotations will but partially show the actual state of affairs, as fluctuations were daily, and often so great as to render it impossible to note reliable rates.

In the beginning of January kinsatsu (Japanese paper currency) opened at 166 yen per 100 dollars, the lowest price being 177 yen. During February the fluctuations were comparatively slight, ranging between 171 and 175 yen; but in March a steady decline took place till paper reached 182 yen. In April there were some very heavy speculations, resulting in a suspension of business for about one week, prices ruling throughout very low. With slight interruptions, a gradual improvement from 174 to 160 yen took place in May and June, and after a steady decline it touched at 165 yen in July and August. Heavy speculations in September again resulted in stoppages and the closing of the Bourse on various occasions; when paper was again down to 179 yen. An improvement then took place, and although prices ruled very irregularly, fluctuations were comparatively slight during the next three months, till towards the end of the year there was another decline, closing prices being 171 yen per 100 dollars.

The average rates of paper yen, as compared with silver yen (equal to the Mexican dollar), during the last five years has been as follows:—

1877	..	..	..	..	..	1·034
1878	..	..	..	..	..	1·092
1879	..	..	..	..	..	1·211
1880	..	..	..	..	..	1·477
1881	..	..	..	..	..	1·696

Freight.—London freights have fluctuated so much that it is extremely difficult to say what the rates have been. The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, the Messageries Maritimes, Holt, Glen, Castle, and Shire are Conference lines, and all made the same charges in 1881. During the early part of the year rates varied between 62s. 6d. and 70s. per ton, rising to 77s. 6d. in May and June, after which they again declined during November and December to 62s. 6d. and 67s. 6d. Whatever the rates may be for measurement of goods and tea, 5s. less is charged for tobacco, rags, wax, and other cheap merchandize. Silk is taken at 7 dollars per cwt., and waste silk at 21 dollars per ton, or its equivalent in sterling if payable in London. No sailing-vessels were dispatched from this port to London during the past year, and freight by steamers not belonging to the above-named lines was absolutely nominal, no inducements offering.

Steamer rates to the United States via Suez Canal commenced at 60s. to 70s. per ton; in May to August they fluctuated between 70s. and 80s., and in November and December were down to 60s. To San Francisco the uniform charge for tea was 2 dollar-cents per lb. gross. To various centres in the United States, via San Francisco, rates opened at 3½ cents per lb. gross, rose to 5 cents in May and July, dropped to 2½ cents in October, and closed in December at 3½ cents. The very low charges via San Francisco are seriously affecting the Suez Canal steamers, as the time taken by them to complete the voyage to New York, averaging seventy-five days as against thirty-five days via San Francisco, is of superlative importance, even though their rates are slightly lower than those by the American overland route.

Sailing-vessels to San Francisco charged 7 dollars per ton, but, to New York there have been no such opportunities.

Throughout these calculations 1 ton measurement has been taken as equal to 40 cubic feet.

Population.—Exclusive of Chinese, the foreign population of Yokohama in 1881 was 1,498, as against 1,366 in the preceding year, showing an increase of 132 residents. There were 594 registered British subjects residing here in 1881, while in 1880 there were 567, being an increase of 27 residents during the past year.

The Chinese population, exclusive of those in foreign employ, regarding whom there are no Returns, amounts to 2,245, and shows a decrease of 260 since 1880.

The inhabitants of the native town of Yokohama number 64,386; those of the Ken or Prefecture of Kanagawa 80,306. Out of these, there were 17,830 only temporarily resident in Yokohama, and 27,406 so residing in the Ken.

Public Works.—No local public works were executed during the past year.

Railways.—The traffic from Yokohama to Tôkiô, including intermediate stations, was as follows:—

	1881.	1880.
Passengers (number)	526,300	433,900
Merchandise (tons)	20,012	20,281

Telegraphs.—The movement at the Yokohama Station was:—

	1881.	1880.
International telegrams—		
Forwarded	9,586	9,410
Received	9,862	9,137
Local European telegrams—		
Forwarded	9,189	7,151
Received	8,760	7,179
Local Japanese telegrams—		
Forwarded	138,118	126,272
Received	97,415	81,217

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. ENSLIE.

(No. 1.)—RETURN of the Import Trade of Kanagawa for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

Article.	Amount.	Value.
Cotton manufactures— (9,724,904 dollars).		Dollars.
Brocades	Yards 58,286	5,983
Cambrics and lawns	" 1,992,954	97,741
Chintzes	" 3,322,767	221,208
Cotton fabrics (sundry)	" 105,614	11,448
Yarn	Piculs 245,372 00	6,379,612
Damasks	Yards 654	160
Drills	" 1,353,924	118,927
Ginghams	" 24,972	2,720
Raw cotton	Piculs 13,689 00	152,784
Satins	Yards 2,162,834	209,427
„ for umbrellas	Pieces 1,902	8,809
Shirtings, grey	Yards 29,778,592	1,417,115
„ white	" 697,167	47,310
„ dyed	" 807,042	57,550
„ twilled	" 1,587,009	107,323
Singlets and drawers	Number 59,737	19,749
Taffachelass	Yards 295,656	46,137
T-cloths	" 1,996,403	107,811
Turkey reds	" 6,230,662	355,214
Velvets	" 2,061,221	357,876
Total .. ..	.. ..	9,724,904
Woollen manufactures— (1,641,246 dollars).		
Blankets	Piculs 3,904 00	170,521
Buntings	Yards 45,610	4,373
Camlets	" 24,438	5,262
Cloth	" 56,026	64,351
Flannels	" 165,734	43,443
Lastings	" 67,528	18,119
Long ells	" 7,040	2,312
Mousseline de laine	" 8,147,599	1,308,558

Article.	Amount.	Value.
Woollen Manufactures (continued)—		Dollars.
Serges	Yards 30,863	12,193
Singlets and drawers	Number 1,491	1,627
Spanish stripes	Yards 1,730	1,232
Woollen goods .. .. .	.. .. .	7,753
Yarn	Piculs 10 00	1,502
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	1,641,246
Mixed cotton and woollen— (788,325 dollars).		
Alpaca	Yards 2,232	560
Camlet cords .. .. .	.. .. .	1,996
Italian cloth .. .. .	.. .. .	442,031
Lustres .. .. .	.. .. .	15,373
Orleans .. .. .	.. .. .	45,910
Singlets and drawers	Number 2,472	3,052
Thread	Piculs 62 00	4,056
Cotton and woollen goods, sundry	Yards 1,261,378	275,357
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	788,325
Metals— (1,066,815 dollars).		
Brass	Piculs 81 00	1,730
„ ware .. .. .	.. .. .	10,075
Copper	Piculs 487 00	10,785
„ nails .. .. .	.. .. .	609
„ ware .. .. .	.. .. .	9,674
Iron, manufactured	Piculs 248,342 00	563,797
„ old and scrap .. .. .	.. .. .	31,426
„ rails .. .. .	.. .. .	27,520
„ roofing .. .. .	.. .. .	15,676
„ pig .. .. .	.. .. .	31,274
„ ware .. .. .	.. .. .	67,128
„ wire .. .. .	.. .. .	22,937
„ „ (galvanized) .. .. .	.. .. .	13,533
„ „ (telegraph) .. .. .	.. .. .	89
„ piping .. .. .	.. .. .	14,746
„ screws .. .. .	.. .. .	10,038
Lead, pig .. .. .	.. .. .	9,572
„ sheet .. .. .	.. .. .	5,798
„ piping .. .. .	.. .. .	4,267
Nickel	Piculs 91 00	6,905
„ ware .. .. .	.. .. .	1,330
Quicksilver	Piculs 192 00	10,499
Spelter and zinc .. .. .	.. .. .	59,891
Steel .. .. .	.. .. .	40,400
„ ware .. .. .	.. .. .	2,567
„ wire	Piculs 488 00	2,879
Tin .. .. .	.. .. .	17,557
„ plates	Cases 5,341	29,209
Yellow metal	Piculs 2,498 00	44,904
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	1,066,815
Arms and ammunition— (50,659 dollars).		
Cannon	Number 8	2,363
Cartridges .. .. .	.. .. .	4,848
Gunpowder	Piculs 580 00	29,534
Rifles	Number 1,333	13,914
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	50,659

Article.	Amount.	Value.
Miscellaneous, foreign— (4,944,567 dollars).		Dollars.
• Anchors and cables .. .. .	.. .. .	11,088
• Articles de Paris .. .. .	.. .. .	855
• Barometers	Number 226	1,333
• Beer and porter .. .. .	.. .. .	61,853
• Belts .. .. .	.. .. .	10,014
• Blacking .. .. .	.. .. .	465
• Blue, Prussian	Piculs 320 40	25,967
• Books	Number 65,870	40,564
• Boots, shoes, and slippers	Pairs 3,629	7,037
• Brushes .. .. .	.. .. .	1,719
• Candles	Piculs 401 00	6,678
• Canvas and cotton ducks	Yards 602,015	91,362
• „ tubes	„ 8,247	1,935
• Carmine	Piculs 19 00	10,842
• Carpets .. .. .	.. .. .	13,554
• „ tapestry .. .. .	.. .. .	3,513
• „ rugs .. .. .	.. .. .	592
• Carriages and harness .. .. .	.. .. .	2,675
• Cattle	Head 46	5,030
• Cement	Piculs 5,674 00	3,915
• Clocks and fittings .. .. .	.. .. .	82,792
• Cloth, oil, for floors	Yards 4,992	2,243
• „ elastic .. .. .	.. .. .	10,920
• Clothing .. .. .	.. .. .	28,950
• Coal	Tons 27,907	209,314
• Coffee	Piculs 742 00	11,503
• Confectionery .. .. .	.. .. .	2,561
• Coral	Piculs 50 00	124,861
• Cordage	„ 3,048 00	38,676
• Corks .. .. .	.. .. .	7,295
• Curtains .. .. .	.. .. .	1,322
• Cutlery .. .. .	.. .. .	8,444
• Drugs	Piculs 9,796 00	95,751
• Dye-stuffs	„ 6,315 00	217,070
• Feathers (kingfisher, peacock, &c.)	„ 3 65	448
• Flour	„ 11,006 00	37,678
• Furniture .. .. .	.. .. .	10,840
• Furs	Number 96,524	23,993
• Gambier	Piculs 179 00	1,042
• Gamboe	„ 2 20	140
• German silver	„ 331 00	14,144
• Glass, window	Cases 33,701	66,651
• „ ware .. .. .	.. .. .	88,332
• „ beads .. .. .	.. .. .	1,601
• Gloves	Dozen 20,477	25,687
• Glue	Piculs 55 00	943
• Gypsum	„ 1,090 00	1,087
• Handkerchiefs	Number 367,108	14,060
• Hats	Dozen 3,711	82,661
• Hemp	Piculs 4,070 00	33,500
• „ yarn	„ 50 00	2,330
• Hides (cow and buffalo)	„ 5 31	121
• Hoofs	„ 575 00	4,321
• Horns	„ 524 00	32,048
• Implements and tools .. .. .	.. .. .	20,752
• India-rubber, crude	Piculs 61 00	225
• „ ware .. .. .	.. .. .	31,230
• Indigo, dry	Piculs 43 45	6,435
• Instruments, scientific .. .. .	.. .. .	40,005
• „ surgical .. .. .	.. .. .	12,712
• „ musical .. .. .	.. .. .	4,915
• Ivory	Piculs 167 66	38,293

Article.	Amount.	Value.
Miscellaneous, foreign (<i>continued</i>)—		Dollars.
Lamps .. .. .	.. .. .	41,375
Lead, red, white, and yellow	Piculs 613 23	4,002
Leather .. .. .	.. .. . 5,328 00	230,465
Linen	Yards 60,365	11,195
„ and cotton mixture	Pieces 127	1,540
Machinery .. .. .	.. .. .	284,263
Matches	Dozen 18,420	1,329
Medicines .. .. .	.. .. .	214,732
Milk, butter, and cheese	Piculs 6,146 00	45,776
Mineral waters .. .. .	.. .. .	5,848
Mirrors	Number 2,250	1,895
Oats	Piculs 197 00	446
Oil cakes .. .. .	.. .. .	3,607
Oil, castor	Piculs 2,169 00	19,973
„ kerosine	Gallons 4,616,855	538,605
„ olive .. .. .	.. .. .	8,374
„ turpentine .. .. .	.. .. .	3,348
„ various .. .. .	.. .. .	21,243
Opera-glasses	Number 352	2,028
Paint-oil	Piculs 5,718 00	46,515
Painters' colours .. .. .	.. .. .	7,018
Paper .. .. .	.. .. .	53,992
Perfumery and cosmetics .. .. .	.. .. .	8,410
Pictures .. .. .	.. .. .	3,871
Pitch and tar	Piculs 656 00	1,459
Plated ware .. .. .	.. .. .	2,452
Porcelain and earthenware .. .. .	.. .. .	9,489
Provisions and stores .. .. .	.. .. .	118,933
Quinine	Piculs 1,014 00	52,814
Rope .. .. .	.. .. .	3,942
Saddlery .. .. .	.. .. .	667
Salted meat, in casks	Piculs 1,101 00	9,374
Scales and balances .. .. .	.. .. .	3,087
Seeds .. .. .	.. .. .	1,623
Shawls and tippets	Number 25,480	5,889
Sheep	Head 1,197	8,170
Silk satins	Number 2,018	36,673
„ crapes .. .. .	.. .. . 114	1,336
„ manufactures .. .. .	.. .. . 11,877	33,963
„ and cotton mixtures	Pieces 8,418	288,051
Silver ware .. .. .	.. .. .	2,566
Snail and cobalt	Piculs 37 00	2,141
Snap, bar .. .. .	.. .. . 1,065 00	6,573
„ toilet .. .. .	.. .. .	6,522
Socks and stockings	Dozen 2,829	5,676
Soda	Piculs 10,495 00	24,724
Spectacles	Number 15,183	797
Sponges .. .. .	.. .. .	1,251
Stationery .. .. .	.. .. .	26,673
Stoves and fittings .. .. .	.. .. .	2,581
Sugar, loaf	Piculs 1,738 00	18,586
Teeth, narwhal and sea-horse .. .. .	.. .. . 84.64	8,169
Thermometers .. .. .	.. .. .	940
Thread .. .. .	.. .. .	10,984
Timber and planks .. .. .	.. .. .	7,296
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes .. .. .	.. .. .	34,417
„ not otherwise specified .. .. .	.. .. .	3,682
Tortoise-shell	Piculs 169 00	73,278
Towels	Dozen 387	802
Travelling bags	Number 22,891	4,910
Trimings .. .. .	.. .. .	8,396
Umbrellas	Dozen 321	3,227
„ frames and sticks .. .. .	.. .. . 129,099	77,693

Article.				Amount.	Value.
Miscellaneous, foreign (<i>continued</i>)—					Dollars.
Utensils for table use .. ..	..	..	..	..	2,558
Varnish .. ..	..	..	..	..	6,563
Verdigris .. ..	..	..	Piculs	113 84	2,308
Vermilion .. ..	..	..	..	415 89	24,462
Waterproof coats .. ..	..	..	Dozen	1,172	3,757
Watches .. ..	..	..	Number	29,898	170,558
Watch-fittings .. ..	..	..	..	..	5,327
Wheat and barley .. ..	..	..	Piculs	1,365 00	2,019
Wines and spirits .. ..	..	..	..	..	147,800
Woods: aloes, red, sapan, sandal ..	..	..	Piculs	1,885 00	7,572
Ships, sailing .. ..	..	..	Number	5	45,300
„ steam .. ..	..	..	..	1	51,800
Sundries unenumerated .. ..	..	..	..	..	359,850
Total .. ..	..	..	..	..	4,944,567
Miscellaneous, local— (3,255,510 dollars).					
Alum .. ..	..	..	Piculs	3,567 00	7,332
Cloves .. ..	..	..	..	259 00	7,669
Gunny bags .. ..	..	..	Number	48,800	4,477
Horses .. ..	..	..	..	31	5,225
Liquors .. ..	..	..	..	..	5,843
Mangrove-bark .. ..	..	..	Piculs	688 00	678
Mats, packing .. ..	..	..	Number	1,159,894	51,354
Matting .. ..	..	..	..	4,840	813
Musk .. ..	..	..	Piculs	1 66	15,670
Oil, bean .. ..	..	..	..	265 00	1,769
„ ground-nut .. ..	..	..	..	319 00	2,606
Paper .. ..	..	..	..	..	42,097
Peas and beans .. ..	..	..	Piculs	14,906 00	31,654
Rattans .. ..	..	..	..	1,588 00	12,286
Rice .. ..	..	..	..	47,797 00	119,052
Safflower .. ..	..	..	..	306 00	14,990
Salt .. ..	..	..	..	..	1,264
Salted fish .. ..	..	..	Piculs	449 00	1,772
Saltpetre .. ..	..	..	..	5,047 00	30,650
Slippers .. ..	..	..	Pairs	1,029	1,710
Sugar, brown .. ..	..	..	Piculs	410,728 00	1,939,790
„ candy .. ..	..	..	..	2,984 00	31,874
„ white .. ..	..	..	..	101,087 00	860,040
Tea .. ..	..	..	..	157 00	4,550
„ lead .. ..	..	..	..	9,196 00	55,056
Sundries unenumerated .. ..	..	..	..	..	5,289
Total .. ..	..	..	..	..	3,255,510

RECAPITULATION.

	Dollars.
Cotton manufactures	9,724,904
Woollen manufactures	1,641,246
Mixed cotton and woollen	788,325
Metals	1,066,815
Arms and ammunition	50,659
Miscellaneous, foreign	4,944,567
„ local	3,255,510
Grand total	21,472,026
Re-exports	275,218

(No. 2).—RETURN of the Export Trade of Kanagawa for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

EXPORTED TO ENGLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

Article.				Quantity.		Value.	
						Dollars.	Dollars.
Silk, raw	..	..	..	Piculs	18,011 81	10,647,310	
„ floss	..	..	..	„	874 46	171,323	
„ floss waste	..	..	..	„	1,244 35	31,693	
„ noshi	..	..	..	„	6,738 89	961,075	
„ waste	..	..	..	„	9,869 97	824,985	
„ tama	..	..	..	„	116 36	30,735	
							12,667,121
Silkworm eggs	..	..	..	Cards	374,494	..	311,140
Tea	..	..	..	Piculs	149,888 94	4,398,297	
„ bancha	..	..	..	„	5,094 17	30,185	
„ dust	..	..	..	„	15,572 84	62,658	
							4,491,140
Copper ore	..	..	..	„	7,535 81	123,181	
„ scrap and old	..	..	..	„	423 26	6,770	
„ ware	..	..	..	..	..	77,725	
							207,676
Tobacco, leaf	..	..	..	„	10,370 72	113,421	
„ various	..	..	..	„	6 86	1,035	
							114,456
Wax, vegetable and bees'	..	..	..	„	1,149 51	..	17,602
Dried fish, various	..	..	..	„	5,771 00	33,345	
Bêche-de-mer	..	..	..	„	1,141 00	39,206	
Cuttle-fish	..	..	..	„	5,048 00	63,829	
Sharks' fins	..	..	..	„	392 00	10,958	
Shell fish	..	..	..	„	954 00	7,259	
Shrimps	..	..	..	„	82 00	987	
Awabi	..	..	..	„	6,763 00	172,703	
							328,287
Rice	..	..	..	„	17,023 00	..	59,928
Miscellaneous—							
Aniseed	..	..	..	„	2,418 00	..	8,810
Awabi shells	..	..	..	„	4,189 00	..	39,067
Bamboo-ware	..	..	..	..	..	..	40,109
Books, printed	..	..	..	Number	10,613	..	3,449
Bronze, old and scrap	..	..	..	Piculs	117 00	1,509	
„ ware	..	..	..	..	..	66,621	
							68,130
Camphor	..	..	..	Piculs	120 00	..	2,115
Clothing	..	..	..	Number	6,958	..	32,587
Cocoons, pierced	..	..	..	Piculs	4,234 81	430,819	
„ waste	..	..	..	„	538 00	16,274	
							447,093
Corals	..	..	..	„	0 53	..	2,971
Cotton, raw	..	..	..	„	1 40	31	
„ manufactures	..	..	..	..	..	22,542	
							22,573
Drugs	..	..	..	Piculs	5,578 78	..	86,147
Earthenware and porcelain	..	..	..	..	..	..	576,648
Fans	..	..	..	Number	10,076,118	..	176,666
Furniture	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,634
Furs	..	..	..	Number	35,984	..	12,057
Gall-nuts	..	..	..	Piculs	295 00	..	3,382
Ironware	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,797
Ivory	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,880
Jinrikishas	..	..	..	Number	180	..	2,432

Article.	Quantity.	Value.	
		Dollars.	Dollars.
Miscellaneous (<i>continued</i>)—			
Kanzen ("colle végétale") ..	Piculs 651 00	..	18,640
Lacquered ware .. ..	.. ..	..	467,441
Lanterns	Number 315,072	..	13,461
Lily bulbs .. ..	.. ..	..	7,733
Matches	Doz. boxes 3,985,162	..	169,901
Medicines .. ..	.. ..	..	5,194
Mushrooms	Piculs 3,291 00	..	100,068
Oil, fish	" 1,267 00	..	3,098
" peppermint	" 58 00	..	9,086
Paper, various .. ..	.. ..	..	75,463
Photographs and pictures ..	.. ..	..	8,739
Plants .. ..	.. ..	..	2,825
Potatoes	Piculs 14,878 00	..	11,777
Provisions .. ..	.. ..	..	39,353
Screens	Number 8,844	..	46,792
Shippoki .. ..	.. ..	..	67,937
Seaweed	Piculs 35,228 00	..	98,746
Silk manufactures .. ..	.. ..	..	77,594
Soap, toilet .. ..	.. ..	..	585
Soy	Piculs 86 85	..	340
Sulphur	" 7,744 00	..	11,339
Tortoiseshell-ware .. ..	.. ..	..	4,614
Umbrellas	Number 709,984	53,535	
" (European)	" 8,072	11,040	
Wheat and barley	Piculs 1,473 70	..	2,790
Sundries .. ..	.. ..	..	152,891
Coal, for ships' use.. ..	Tons 1,407	..	8,785
Total .. ..	.. ..	..	21,154,664

RECAPITULATION (EXPORTS).

	Dollars.
Silk	12,667,121
Silkworm eggs	311,140
Tea	4,491,140
Copper	207,676
Tobacco	114,456
Wax	17,602
Dried fish	328,387
Rice	59,928
Miscellaneous	2,957,314
Grand total	21,154,664

Re-exports, 17,142 dollars.

(No. 3).—RETURN of all British and Foreign Shipping entered and cleared at the Port of Kanagawa during the Year ended December 31, 1881.

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Gross Tonnage.	Number.	Gross Tonnage.
British—				
General.. ..	118	174,297	125	183,586
Mail-steamers	54	130,185	54	130,185
American—				
General.. ..	34	30,369	26	25,938
Mail-steamers	18	91,433	18	91,433
French—				
General.. ..	4	1,724	3	1,418
Mail-steamers	27	40,590	26	88,855
German—				
General	30	11,563	28	10,747
Danish—				
General.. ..	3	1,376	3	1,376
Dutch—				
General.. ..	1	263	..	..
Russian—				
General.. ..	4	284	4	284
Total	293	482,084	287	483,822

All tonnages quoted in the above Return are gross.

It has hitherto, however, been the practice to return only the net tonnage of British vessels in the General Annual Shipping Return, while the tonnage of all other foreign vessels has been returned in gross. It will be seen that this conveyed an inaccurate idea not only of the total annual foreign tonnage at this port, but also of the relative importance of British shipping.

The net tonnage of British ships for the year 1881 was :—

	Entered.	Cleared.
General	126,579	132,772
Mail-steamers	81,377	81,477
Total	208,056	214,249

The gross tonnage of British ships, as shown above, was :—

	Entered.	Cleared.
General	174,297	183,586
Mail-steamers	130,185	130,185
Total	304,482	313,771

(No. 4.)—RETURN of Treasure imported into, and exported from, the Port of Kanagawa during the Year 1881.

Imported from—			Dollars.	Dollars.
England and other countries	..	..	555,501	
Open ports in Japan	..	..	2,806,972	
Total imported	..	..		3,362,473
Exported to—				
England and other countries	..	..	4,786,744	
Open ports in Japan	..	..	1,227,396	
Total exported	..	..		6,014,140
Total imported and exported	..	..		9,376,613

(No. 5.)—RETURN of Duties upon Exports and Imports, Shipping Dues, Storage Charges, and Miscellaneous Customs Fees collected at the Port of Kanagawa during the Year 1881.

				Dollars.
Export duties	..	..	..	984,843
Import duties	..	..	..	1,473,582
Storage and warehousing fees	..	..	..	19,596
Clearance and entrance	..	..	..	26,986
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	6,416
Total	..	..	..	2,511,423

(No. 6.)—RETURN showing the number of British Residents and Firms, and the Residents and Firms of each Foreign Nationality established at the Port of Kanagawa on the 31st December, 1881.

Nationality.				No. of Residents.	No. of Firms.
British	..	..	..	594	54
Austro-Hungarian	..	..	..	6	1
Belgian	..	..	..	10	2
Chinese (exclusive of those in foreign employ)	..	..	..	2,245	..
Danish	..	..	..	21	1
Dutch..	..	..	..	46	2
French	..	..	..	164	41
German	..	..	..	190	22
Hawaiian	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	16	3
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..
Portuguese	..	..	..	36	..
Russian	..	..	..	72	..
Spanish	..	..	..	6	..
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	28	..
Swiss ..	..	..	..	34	11
United States	..	..	..	275	33
Total ..	..	..	..	3,743	170

Appendix (A).
 RETURN of the principal Articles of Merchandise imported into the Port of Kanagawa during the five Years from 1877 to 1881,
 inclusive.

	1877.		1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.
Cotton manufactures—										
Breadcrumbs	194,131	8,419	68,914	4,445	998,907	58,984	847,713	40,376	58,984	40,376
Cambrics and muslins	860,131	54,799	1,441,408	88,323	1,413,117	91,998	3,639,089	194,990	1,999,964	97,741
Chintzes and prints	1,908,150	124,411	2,103,148	158,443	1,741,167	119,880	3,339,997	240,693	3,339,997	240,693
Cotton yarn	148,911 00	4,041,316	270,151 00	7,465,680	299,683 00	6,033,476	989,889 00	7,792,439	6,879,412	6,879,412
Drills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sateens	1,708,718	915,617	814,678	924,401	994,136	923,544	993,371	50,510	1,843,984	118,997
Surtings, grey	26,468,111	1,433,887	18,689,991	1,131,904	45,711,547	3,074,985	55,688,940	1,633,973	91,168,584	909,497
" dyed	345,940	123,985	1,741,823	545,916	869,844	310,713	3,639,940	1,633,973	29,778,992	1,417,116
" twilled	1,681,671	167,515	1,514,080	135,135	869,394	80,784	2,801,390	216,632	697,107	47,210
Stripes and drawers	9,213,860	131,074	3,568,865	296,886	1,891,843	106,784	1,694,278	123,943	807,068	57,880
Tudchiclas	10,969	45,668	10,840	24,944	1,974	3,511	11,008	34,448	1,667,009	107,288
Tudchiclas	981,493	47,573	140,683	26,666	143,896	28,764	103,290	71,548	296,868	46,137
T-shirts	1,675,613	101,367	1,314,947	116,401	1,646,738	88,171	1,577,888	183,171	1,996,463	107,811
Turkey reds	1,974,983	144,268	6,884,047	884,210	6,123,968	824,279	3,178,638	194,349	6,380,663	335,314
Valises	1,325,798	369,541	2,405,708	561,541	1,566,966	266,496	3,134,457	597,666	2,061,381	367,876
Woolen manufactures—										
Blankets	8,138 00	399,167	5,938 00	268,977	3,197 00	146,598	4,004 00	190,991	3,904 00	170,631
Camels	20,716	8,599	9,890	3,471	30,836	4,183	7,196	3,163	24,488	6,263
Cloth	448,468	688,776	474,189	700,653	138,268	196,266	193,087	167,743	66,086	64,361
Flannel	533,190	100,948	129,151	108,541	108,541	39,103	82,768	33,743	165,784	43,463
Mouselines de laine	8,681,386	1,677,667	8,968,498	1,810,632	10,889,801	1,967,694	11,689,807	1,831,368	8,147,699	1,308,668
Tudchiclas	27,864	6,104	31,493	4,776	106,648	13,743	84,097	11,141	...	...
Mixed cotton and woolen—										
Apoca	38,391	7,068	112,913	28,183	71,884	12,693	904,933	24,509	2,293	560
Italian cloth	1,906,064	484,513	1,191,361	270,006	2,449,468	636,447	3,496,645	733,311	2,160,889	442,091
Lustres	1,128,448	167,464	274,359	41,317	194,393	24,369	176,263	18,864	137,703	16,373
Oriens	...	...	804,986	113,397	969,394	137,698	677,689	66,966	484,881	46,910
Metals—										
Brass	5,914 00	133,313	4,694 00	97,790	39 00	914	38 00	961	81 00	1,730
Copper	413 00	10,804	1,492 00	26,310	284 00	5,573	705 00	16,459	909 00	11,394
Iron, manufactured	132,960 00	464,717	204,906 00	675,719	179,498 00	497,255	286,073 00	680,680	248,543 00	668,797
" pig	90,681 00	31,736	34,648 00	49,060	11,676 00	13,776	34,310 00	80,910	43,679 00	31,374

Appendix (B).
 RETURN of the principal Articles of Merchandise exported from the Port of Kanagawa during the five Years from 1877 to 1881,
 inclusive.

	1877.		1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.	Quantity.	Value. Dollars.
Silk—										
Raw ...	17,830 00	9,024,931	14,512 00	8,283,918	16,373 00	9,751,554	14,616 00	8,606,967	18,012 00	10,647,310
Wool ...	888 14	86,288	2,440 00	206,560	4,661 00	576,322	4,585 00	605,594	6,739 00	961,075
Wool ...	10 87	2,900	21 00	5,161	...	...	0 75	423	116 00	30,735
Wool ...	903 83	168,750	484 00	77,999	1,366 00	188,483	169 50	32,559	874 00	171,833
Wool ...	1,699 83	168,647	6,790 00	345,580	10,180 00	645,044	9,095 00	681,396	9,870 00	894,866
Tea—										
Tea ...	14,147 874	2,613,188	16,594 594	2,704,072	21,896 830	4,562,998	24,237 905	4,795,961	18,988 198	4,396,397
Tea ...	81,960	2,540	299 067	7,994	1,173 134	6,570	457 794	25,269	673,233	80,166
Tea ...	996,793	24,978	1,302,400	33,631	1,744 134	42,757	2,947 464	71,067	8,076,378	62,668
Cocoons—										
Pierced	3,483 64	254,873	2,828 00	224,673	4,578 00	437,950	839 00	90,474	4,384 31	480,819
Unpierced	80 86	1,199	180 00	3,861	8 00	600	5 00	630	...	...
Wool ...	43 68	2,268	...	...	683 00	91,744	535 00	14,335	538 00	16,274
Silk-worm eggs	1,176 143	344,998	887 767	663,606	813 949	562,623	530 453	991 081	374,494	311,140
Rice	376,349 00	797,439	404,469 00	999,093	13,344 00	42,156	15,763 00	47,561	17,023 00	69,928
Wheat	8,795 00	13,654	188 681 00	384,456	28,111 00	62,563	878 00	3,324	1,474 00	2,790
Copper and bronze	10,287 00	384,609	15,484 00	271,637	13,068 00	283,682	10,710 00	183,324	8,076 00	131,460
Tobacco	3,460 00	88,884	2,426 00	30,930	5,864 00	68,771	11,026 00	102,854	10,378 00	114,456
Lacquered ware	...	133,608	...	118,773	...	233,649	...	400,725	...	467,441
Yam	8,729 731	47,994	8,740 505	60,113	1,207 667	87,787	2,321 695	167 961	10,076 118	176,668
Porcelain and earthenware	...	60,987	83 379	33,379	...	189,931	...	329 883	...	576,648
Wax, vegetable and bees'	58 00	18,123	1,325 00	23,638	443 00	7,199	554 00	10,428	11 49 00	17,603
Fish, dried	18,101 60	227,391	27,989 00	406,124	28,687 00	381,727	28,947 00	404,720	20,161 00	\$38,287
Ginseng	2,576 00	154,734	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manila	361	1,568	139	1,780	1,444	6,083	5,388	17,405	8,844	44,792
Umbrella	...	5,369	...	3,776	...	76,381	...	254,710	...	169,901
Parasols	...	...	...	...	...	14,407	...	41,691	...	64,575
Parasols	...	...	...	...	...	7,589	...	90,532	...	16,109
Parasols	...	...	...	...	...	489	...	9,185	...	13,491
Silk manufactures	...	...	...	...	...	19,435	...	48,600	...	67,897
Sulphur	2,216 00	10,015	4,601 00	13,657	...	9,449	...	40,668	...	77,894
		5,475		8,946	8,375 00	11,569	5,237 00	6,118	7,744 00	11,389

Appendix (C).

Rules mutually agreed upon by Wholesale Dealers in Silk.

1. OWNERS of *küto*, *noshi*, *mawata*, *mayu*, *degara mayu*, *kudzurui*, &c., having made certain proposals to us for the future conduct of the sale of their goods, we have agreed upon the following rules :—

2. When *küto*, *mawata*, *mayu*, *degara mayu*, *kudzurui*, &c., are sent by owners in the producing districts to Yokohama, for sale to either Japanese or foreigners, they shall be forthwith conveyed to the Rengo Kiito Niadzukarisho, and there stored.

3. When goods thus sent are received they shall be inspected in accordance with the rules of the establishment; and when required the bales shall be repacked so that each shall be uniform in quality. Any one of these bales may be kept on the premises of a wholesale dealer as a sample by which transactions may be settled.

(*Note.*—Goods purchased by a dealer in the producing districts, or on the market at Yokohama, shall be subject likewise to this rule. No dealer, on any pretext, shall evade the substance of this Article.)

4. When a dealer concludes a sale by means of the sample bale in his possession, he shall immediately notify the Rengo Kiito Niadzukarisho of the transaction; and the delivery of the bulk and payment therefor shall be made by and to the Company according to its rules.

(*Note.*—Even a portion of a bale so sold shall be subject to this rule.)

5. Goods consigned to a member, and stored with this Company, may be transferred only to another member, and the transaction shall be conducted in accordance with these Rules.

(*Note.*—Persons who are not members of this Company will not be recognized, and any member to whom goods are consigned shall inform the owner of this rule.)

6. All dealers are at liberty to effect sales by means of sample, but they shall not carry the sample to foreign houses or elsewhere for inspection.

7. Advances upon goods stored with this Company shall not exceed 80 per cent., and the term shall be thirty days. If the goods are not sold during this term, it may be extended by a new contract for another thirty days. If such new contract be not made, the goods shall be sold at the market-price then current, and the surplus shall be paid to the owner of the goods, who shall be also liable to make good any deficit.

(*Note.*—Varying percentages of advances may cause natural dissatisfaction, and care must be taken to preserve equality in this respect; any member, however, is at liberty to accept a lower advance than 80 per cent.)

8. When goods upon which advances have been made are sold, the proceeds of the sale shall be exchanged for kinsatsu on the same day, and after repayment of the advance, the balance shall be handed to the owner.

(*Note.*—The owner may, on request, postpone the exchange of the proceeds of sale into kinsatsu for seven days; but on the eighth day, even though the owner be absent, the exchange shall be made at the rate of that day. As the exchange of kinsatsu fluctuates daily, the owner of the goods shall consent to this condition as part of the conditions of the advance.)

9. In event of fluctuation in exchange for kinsatsu during the period of storage to such an extent that the proceeds of sale of silk are

insufficient to cover advances made, the owner of silk shall make good the deficiency. Should he neglect or fail to do so, he shall be posted as a defaulter at the houses of each member, and no transactions shall be made with him henceforth.

(*Note.*—Such defaulter shall be excluded from transactions either through another member or as agent for others.)

10. Commissions chargeable shall be :—(Not stated.)

11. Sales may be contracted for to either Japanese or foreigners, but delivery shall not be made before payment is received.

12. Fees customarily payable to Chinese or Japanese, and to watchmen of godowns, &c., shall be abolished.

13. This Association will have no transactions with any person who purchases silk in the producing districts for sale to foreigners, or with those who purchase from any person not a member of this Association.

(*Note.*—This Article does not refer to goods sold to foreigners according to the rules of this Company.)

14. No silk will be received from those persons who have taken even one bale to wholesale dealers who are not members of this Association.

15. In support of our adherence to these Articles we have deposited 1,000 yen each with the 2nd National Bank; and should any member violate one Article of these Rules, the whole or a portion of this deposit shall be forfeited, and his name may be removed from the Association by a general Resolution of the members.

(*Note.*—A share of the Rengo Kiito Niadsukarisho may be deposited in lieu of money.)

In witness of this mutual agreement each member affixes his hand and seal.

Signatures :

HARA ZENZABURO, Kameya.
 MOGI SOBEI, Nozawaya.
 SHIBUSAWA SAKUTARO.
 MUMAKOSHI KIOHEI, Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha.
 ASAFUKI YEIJI, Boyeki Shokwai.
 HIRAMUMA SENZO, Sekitanya.
 KAWAGOYE GENTARO.
 WAKAO IKUZO.
 NAKAZATO CHUBEI, Nozawaya.
 TANAKA HEIHACHI, Itoya.
 UYEHARA SHIROYEMON, Manager of Kotsuke Company.
 HORIKOSHI KIUSABURO, Tomiya.
 TABEI YOSHIBEI, Kioya.
 TAKAHASHI MANYEMON, Fujisawaya.
 KAWAGITA KIUTARO.
 KOYASU SHUN, Fuso Shokwai.
 TAKAKI SABURO, Doshin Kwaisha.
 SUZUKI UYEMON, Suzukiya.
 HAGIHARA KENJIRO.
 NIISHIMA KINBEI.
 YAMADA KOMAKICHI.
 ISHIMA YUZO.
 AMENOMIYA KEIJIRO.
 SHIBUSAWA YOSABURO.
 WATANABE FUKUSABURO, Sekitanya.
 KASAHARA MEGUMU, Maruya Company.

APPENDIX (D).

Extract from the "Tôkiô Yokohama Mai Nichi Shinbun" ("Daily News") of the 11th and 20th November, 1881.

(Translation.)

In our opinion the reason for the recent establishment by a number of interested persons of a central silk warehouse at Yokohama was that, owing to the insufferable nature of the bad customs of foreign buyers hitherto prevailing, the silk producers of the interior had met with unheard-of losses, and that as damage was thus being sustained by us in the matter of our greatest article of export, it would be a most praiseworthy aim for those interested to establish such a warehouse, to hold in their own hands the control over the trade, and thus do away with the corrupt practices of foreign merchants. We, the silk producers, regarding this with admiration, earnestly awaited the commencement of operations. After the opening, however, of the central silk warehouse, foreign merchants disapproved of the course adopted, they declined to deal with the Association, and published this decision far and wide. In consequence of statements made by you (the Central Silk Warehousing Company), we thereupon took into consideration the actual circumstances affecting the profit or otherwise to the trade, and we found there was a difference between the statements formerly made by you and your actual conduct in the matter. This difference consisted in this, that although you proposed it as your object to get into your own hands the control over the silk trade, to sweep away the hitherto existing evil practices of foreign merchants, and thus obtain for us a great profit, yet you blundered both in the time and method of commencing operations.

Again, by not taking sufficient care, foreign merchants lost faith in you; complications arose, trade was obstructed, and consequently we lost heavily. The reason why we now complain of a discrepancy between the actual facts of the case and your professions, and are therefore dissatisfied, is that, when you established yourselves, you borrowed as your capital from two or three banks a million or more yen at a yearly interest of 6 per cent., out of which, at the commencement, you advanced money to us at the rate of 18 per cent., and afterwards, as complications increased, at a reduced rate of 15 per cent. If this be compared with a capital borrowed at a yearly rate of 6 per cent., the profit obtained will be found to be 150 to 200 per cent.

And who is it that receives this? We are forced to say that it looks very much as if this Silk Warehousing Company had been established for the mere purpose of last after profit, and this is, therefore, one of the reasons for our dissatisfaction with it.

Again, since the establishment of your society, we, the producers, have had to pay three separate fees. These may be enumerated as follows:—

One fee to the middleman, one at the place of packing in the producing districts, and collected on account of the Silk Guild, and one, again to the Silk Guild in Yokohama.

Although, on account of the present complications, these are not collected at present, yet as soon as the difficulties now existing have ceased we shall surely be again called upon to pay those fees. It will thus be seen that the producers pay two fees entirely for the benefit of the Silk Guild; this is the second cause of our dissatisfaction.

Again, since the creation of your Guild complications with the foreign merchants have become very serious, and at present there is no telling when trade may be resumed. Accordingly, the total amount of silk stored

up at this port is more than 14,000 bales, which represent a money value of 5,000,000 dollars, and which, on account of the action of your establishment, cannot be sold. Moreover, of this amount, seven-tenths is burdened with a 15 per cent. interest, while one-third of it represents the idle capital of the producers. On account of this great losses are sustained, and the capital is, moreover, taken from circulation; this is the third cause of our dissatisfaction.

Nevertheless, we looked with admiration on the principle of your great scheme, viz., to get into your own hands the control over the silk trade, and as we had also to contribute towards this object, the losses above referred to may be deemed insignificant, and we were restrained from pointing out your faults. But now the producers are again threatened with heavy losses, which consist in that, on the termination of the present difficulties, they will probably compete with each other in selling the 14,000 odd bales of silk accumulated at this port. Should such an event come to pass, not only will the price of silk, which at present is valued at, say, 600 dollars per bale, be suddenly reduced by 30 or 40 dollars on account of this competitive sale when dealing with foreign buyers, but it will also be apparent that a sudden fall of 14 or 15 per cent. in the price of silver as compared with the present price must take place. It is therefore evident that the producers cannot, owing to the amount of silk at present in Yokohama, escape losses, which, in consequence of the attitude of foreign buyers, and fluctuations in exchange, will amount to nearly 1,400,000 or 1,500,000 yen. It appears, therefore, that the great scheme for which the Silk Guild was established, viz., getting the control over the trade into their own hands and thus doing away with the evil customs till now in force, which was to have resulted in great profit to us, was, as we have shown, in reality the cause of great losses, and did us incalculable harm. It is no exaggeration to say that you (the Silk Guild) raised your own capital at 6 per cent., for which you took from us an exorbitant rate of interest.

If, however, it had been your plan to crush by force the power of combined action on the part of the foreign merchants, and thus gain the victory, we should have borne it even if we had had to suffer losses. But if we regard the present state of the Silk Guild it will appear that there was necessarily a limit to the capital with which it operated, and we certainly think that there was no reason to hope for victory in so prolonged a struggle with such serious complications. We do not know, however, whether you intend to hold out at all cost, for, according to what you say, it would seem, firstly, that if, having at present a capital of more than 1,000,000 yen, you continue operations, the united action of foreign merchants being broken they will sue for a settlement; and, secondly, you appear to propose the export direct of all the silk at present in Yokohama without the intervention of local foreign merchants. But we do not believe you can do this. Our reason for thinking thus is, that although you have a capital of 1,000,000 yen, yet there are stored in Yokohama more than 10,000 bales of silk, and when at the end of the year there is a demand for money, we, the producers, could certainly not hold out, notwithstanding your 1,000,000 yen.

Again, although you say that you will break the combination of the foreign merchants, and get them to beg for a reconciliation, yet it we regard the fact that the latter are aware of the true situation of your Association, which is at present approaching to the perilous, it is clear that they will gather renewed strength and await your dissolution.

Again, it would be by no means easy to export all the silk at present in Yokohama. The reason is that our merchants are not versed in the

ways of foreign markets, and not knowing these markets, they cannot appreciate the true value of merchandize. Accordingly, we have no desire to call for your intervention in selling abroad all our silk at present in Yokohama. As to the question of the profit or loss on direct export to foreign markets, if fashionable or indispensable silks were chosen for export, or else if suitable quantities were shipped when there is a demand, we have no doubt that profit would result. It is, however, apparent to every one that all the silk held by you in Yokohama could not be exported in the way you propose, although you say that on account of the present complications you propose to export direct, yet we think it is not too much to say that you would end by getting us into your power. And therefore, we again emphatically repeat, on mature consideration of the present circumstances of the case, that you cannot prevail over the foreign merchants.

You will probably accuse us unjustly that we, the producers, have forgotten our duties to our country, saying that we are wanting in patience, or you may make other unjust statements concerning us. If your own conduct is, in your opinion, worthy of praise, we, the silk producers, beg that you will give a satisfactory reply to the four following points:—

1. The reduction after the expiry of ten days to 6 per cent. of yearly interest on money at present advanced to us.

2. The exchange into silver, at the bank rate of the day, of that part of the money borrowed by us in paper; money in future borrowed on the security of silk from the silk districts to be paid in silver at the exchange of the day on which the silk arrives.

3. The guaranteeing to us that those who cannot comply with the terms of the second Article will make good the loss caused by a depreciation of money or silk incurred by selling on another day.

4. Loss on silk exported abroad to be borne by you (silk exported at the request of the producers, as likely to be in request at the place to which it is exported, is not included herein).

If you comply with these four points, we, the producers, will completely coincide with your views; but, on the other hand, if you do not comply with them, we shall also be unable to consent to your proposals, as we have before informed you.

Having noticed that you will be unable to carry out your plans, and knowing that in the future we shall sustain loss, we, in order not to fall into misfortune, have finally thrust aside your proposals, and, with the intention of getting into our own hands a suitable control over the trade, have made a new covenant, and will carry on business on our own account. We also think that when we do this there will be no reason for reproaching us with having broken our contract.

We would wish it to be understood that our reason for having thus minutely argued this question is not a mere regret for the loss we have sustained. We know that under the present circumstances you certainly cannot carry out your original plans, and therefore not only would the producers (who remained with you) lose their capital, their business degenerate, and finally the great industries of the country decline, but nearly 10,000,000 yen would be withdrawn from circulation, and the finances of the entire country thrown into confusion. What mourning there would then be! For these reasons we have urged you to concede the foregoing points, and we pray that you will take them into your favourable consideration, sending us a speedy answer as to whether or not you consent to them.

APPENDIX (E).

Circular to Japanese Tea Producers.

As regards the condition of tea, its preparation has, as you are aware, greatly deteriorated throughout all the tea districts since the year 1874 onwards. In consequence, when tea from the various districts was brought for sale to foreign dealers, they detected the inferiority of its preparation, and would only purchase it at low prices; and, in addition, difference from sample and undue preponderance of dust also afforded grounds for incessant complaints. The result was that, during the years 1875-78, prices fell to an unprecedented degree; the losses sustained by the tea merchants were considerable; and there was, of course, a marked falling-off in the income derived from this, our most important article of produce. This was also the case during 1879, for, although in the months of September-December of that year an unusual rise in prices took place, this was not a genuine rise in quality. From November 1880 to January 1881, and again from October 1881 down to the present date, the market-price of a picul of prepared tea has been the same as that of 16 kwammé (1 picul) weight of the raw leaves at the place of production—a truly deplorable state of affairs. Unless, therefore, the bad method of preparation hitherto in force be reformed, and the tea be restored to the excellent condition which was noticeable during the year 1868, the result must be that, when some three years more have elapsed, it will prove a matter of impossibility to find a market for Japan teas in any foreign country.

Again, judging by advices received from Japanese who have visited New York, Chicago, Canada, Philadelphia, and San Francisco, Japan teas have for the past eight years been very inferior in quality, and prices have consequently fallen very low. If, then, we continue to export such inferior goods for two or three years yet to come, it may well happen that no one abroad will appreciate the same. We would therefore advise that from this year onward the young leaves should be at once plucked, without delaying until the "88th evening" (the time usually prescribed for picking the tea), and also that the second and third pickings should take place before the leaves grow coarse; thus an article of good quality only would be prepared and sent out [to Yokohama].

During 1868-71 the price obtained for prepared tea was never less than 40 dollars per picul. For a whole year, in 1874-75, the average price did not exceed 25 dollars per picul. There have also been years showing averages in prices of 18 dollars and 19 dollars respectively. When the above state of affairs shall have been reformed, and good methods of preparation adopted, then will prices also gradually rise, and the market value of the tea return to that prevailing during 1868.

			Average Yearly Export.	Average Price per Picul.	Average Amount realized Yearly.
			Piculs.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1868-72	..	..	100,000	47	4,700,000
1873-74	..	..	150,000	33	4,950,000
1875-77	..	..	180,000	25	4,500,000
1878-81	..	..	220,000	20	4,500,000

A comparison between the above amounts will, we think, show that, if the defective modes of preparation throughout the whole country be

improved, and good methods be adopted in their place, the profits accruing to Japan will be doubled. We trust, therefore, that all classes will unite in urging the adoption of such methods both upon those who own tea plantations and also upon those who prepare the leaf.

(Signed)

REHEI.
IMKI.
KUSHICHI.
ZENKICHI.

*Branch Establishment of Chiujo,
2nd Ward, Main Street, Yokohama,
March 1882.*

APPENDIX (F).

British Shipping.

*Report of the Port of Ka sawa for the Year ended December 31,
1881.*

VESSELS ENTERED.

One hundred and seventy-two vessels, of 208,056 tons net measurement, entered this port during the year; being an increase of ten vessels and 31,596 tons upon the preceding year.

As in 1880, the increase was caused by the larger number of steamers visiting this port, principally from Great Britain.

The Returns for this year show an increase of 30 per cent. in the number of steamers, and of nearly 25 per cent. in the amount of tonnage, as compared with the previous year, the figures for 1881 being 130, of 181,017 tons, as against 100, of 136,550 tons, for 1880, or an increase of 30 vessels and 44,467 tons for the year 1881.

In sailing-vessels, however, there is a decrease of 20 vessels and 12,871 tons.

From Great Britain.—Fifty-five vessels, of 69,898 tons, viz., 45 steamers, of 61,313 tons, and 10 sailing-vessels, of 8,585 tons (being about one-third of the total tonnage), entered at this port from Great Britain, showing an increase of 6 vessels and 9,866 tons upon the previous year; the increase being all caused by steamers, as there was a decrease of 2 vessels and 1,107 tons in sailing-vessels, while steamers show an increase of 8 vessels and 10,973 tons.

With the exception of 2 sailing-vessels, of 1,832 tons, which came from Wales with coals, the whole of the vessels from Great Britain brought general cargoes to this port; the greater number of them (41 steamers, of 56,582 tons, and 6 sailing-vessels, of 5,040 tons) arrived from London; while of the remainder, 4 steamers, of 4,731 tons, were from Glasgow, and 2 sailing-vessels, of 1,713 tons, from Middlesborough.

From Hong Kong.—Forty-six steamers, of 63,027 tons, entered from Hong Kong, of which number 26, of 26,949 tons, were steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company, and 14, of 27,628 tons, of the Occidental and Oriental Line of Steamers, all of them having brought general cargoes. Of the other 6 steamers, of 8,449 tons, three brought general cargoes, and the other 3 came in ballast, to load tea for New York.

In 1880 the number of vessels entered from Hong Kong was 40; of

50,886 tons; the Returns for 1881, therefore, show an increase of 6 vessels and 12,221 tons.

From Australia.—Eleven sailing-vessels, of 6,468 tons, with cargoes of coal, entered from Newcastle, New South Wales, being, as compared with the previous year, a decrease of one vessel, but an increase of 481 tons in carrying capacity.

From the United States.—Seventeen vessels, of 31,786 tons, entered from the United States, 14, of 26,900 tons, being steamers of the Occidental and Oriental line of steamers from San Francisco, with general cargoes, and the other 3 vessels, of 4,886 tons, being sailing-vessels, with cargoes of kerosine oil, two, of 3,257 tons, from New York, and one, of 1,629 tons, from Philadelphia.

The above figures show an increase of 1 vessel and 3,906 tons upon the previous year, there being an increase of 2 steamers and 4,156 tons, and a decrease of 1 sailing-vessel and 250 tons.

From Europe.—Eight vessels, of 6,552 tons, entered from Europe, being a decrease of 6 vessels and 4,245 tons upon the year 1880. Of the above 8 vessels, 3, of 3,216 tons, were steamers, and 5, of 3,336 tons, were sailing-vessels, all of which brought general cargoes from Antwerp.

The decrease in vessels and tonnage from Antwerp was in sailing-vessels only, as there was an increase of 1 steamer and 942 tons.

From China.—Fourteen vessels, of 7,552 tons, viz., 4 steamers, of 4,711 tons, and 10 sailing-vessels, of 2,841 tons, came to this port from China. With the exception of one steamer of 1,558 tons, which came here in ballast from Shanghai, the whole of the above vessels entered from Takao, Formosa, with cargoes of sugar.

The amount of tonnage, as compared with 1880, shows a difference of only 265 tons in favour of 1881.

From Japan.—Twenty vessels, of 21,440 tons, being an increase of 7 vessels and 8,533 tons upon the previous year, entered from the other Treaty ports of Japan; 17, of 20,512 tons, were steamers, and 3, of 928 tons, sailing-vessels. Of the steamers, 10, of 14,199 tons, arrived from Hiogo in ballast, or with a small portion of general cargo on board; 6, of 5,611 tons, from Nagasaki, with coal; and 1, of 702 tons, from Hakodate, with a cargo of seaweed, *en route* to Shanghai.

The three sailing-vessels were from Nagasaki, with coal cargoes.

From other Ports.—Only 1 vessel entered from other ports, namely, the steamer "Bengal," of 1,328 tons, which arrived from Singapore in ballast, having been chartered to load at this port for New York.

VESSELS CLEARED.

The total number of British vessels cleared from this port during the year ended December 31, 1881, was 179, of 214,249 tons, being 132 steamers, of 181,724 tons, and 47 sailing-vessels, of 32,525 tons.

The amount of tonnage, as compared with 1880, shows an increase of 42,577 tons; steam tonnage having increased by 43,641 tons, and sailing tonnage having decreased by 1,064 tons.

For Great Britain.—Fifteen steamers, of 21,584 tons, and 1 sailing-vessel, of 569 tons, cleared for London with general cargoes, the steamers calling *en route* at various other ports in Japan and China for cargo, and the sailing-vessel calling at the port of Hiogo to complete her cargo.

For Hong Kong.—Forty steamers, of 58,849 tons; and 1 sailing-vessel, of 384 tons, cleared for Hong Kong.

Of the 40 steamers, 26, of 26,948 tons, were P&O and Oriental Steamship Company's steamers, and 14, of 26,900 tons, belong to the

Occidental and Oriental Company's line of steamers. All of these steamers carried general cargoes.

The sailing-vessel was the "*Presto*," which left this port in ballast.

For Australia.—There were no departures for Australia during the year 1881.

For United States.—Forty-seven vessels, of 71,363 tons, being 38 steamers, of 61,133 tons, and 9 sailing-vessels, of 10,230 tons, cleared for ports in the United States of America.

Of the steamers, 14, of 27,628 tons, were Occidental and Oriental steamers, bound to San Francisco with general cargoes and a large number of Chinese emigrants. One other steamer, of 1,473 tons, also cleared for San Francisco with emigrants.

The other 23 steamers, of 32,032 tons, cleared for New York with part general cargoes (principally tea), calling at other ports *en route* to complete loading.

These numbers, on being compared with the Returns for the previous year, show an increase for the year now under review of 3 steamers and 6,357 tons for San Francisco, and 11 steamers and 15,969 tons for New York.

Of the 9 sailing-vessels, of 10,230 tons, 4 vessels, of 6,630 tons, cleared for San Francisco, 3, of 4,746 tons, being in ballast, and the other vessel, the "*Cilurnum*," of 1,884 tons, which left with part of original cargo from Hong Kong. Three vessels, of 2,404 tons, cleared for Portland, Oregon, and 2 vessels, of 1,196 tons, for Puget Sound, in ballast.

For Europe.—There were no departures for Europe during the year 1881.

For China.—Three vessels, of 1,140 tons, cleared for China ports, viz. :—1 steamer, of 702 tons, for Shanghai, with original cargo from Hakodate; 1 sailing-vessel, of 219 tons, in ballast, for Takao, Formosa, and another of the same tonnage, in ballast, for Chefoo.

For Japan.—Sixty-three vessels, of 59,395 tons, cleared for ports in Japan. Of these, 38, of 44,456 tons, were steamers, and 25, of 14,939 tons, were sailing-vessels.

Thirty steamers, of 38,335 tons, and 15 sailing-vessels, of 11,784 tons, cleared for Hiôgo with part of original cargo from England and Antwerp on board.

One steamer, of 91 tons, cleared for the same port in ballast, and the other 7 steamers, of 6,030 tons, cleared for Nagasaki in ballast.

Of the other 10 sailing-vessels, of 3,155 tons, 5, of 1,731 tons, cleared for Nagasaki, 2 of them carrying a cargo of kerosine oil and the other 3 in ballast.

Four vessels, of 1,048 tons, cleared for Hiôgo, 1 with a cargo of kerosine oil and the other 3 in ballast.

The remaining 1 vessel, of 376 tons, cleared for Hakodate in ballast.

For other Ports.—Nine sailing-vessels, of 5,965 tons, cleared for other ports, viz. :—6, of 3,439 tons, for British Columbia; 2, of 2,225 tons, for Iloilo; and 1, of 301 tons, for Zebu; all of them having left in ballast.

VESSELS SOLD AND BOUGHT.

Two sailing-vessels have been sold at this port during the year 1881, viz. :—the "*E. M. Young*," of Melbourne, 345 tons, for 13,300 dollars, and the "*Otto*," of Hong Kong, 274 tons, for 7,420 dollars, the purchasers in both cases being Japanese.

Two steamers were bought at this port by British merchants from the Japanese, viz. :—the "*Takao-maru*," of 617 tons, and the "*Ruri-maru*,"

of 91 tons. The price paid for the former was 75,000 yen, equal to about 8,600*l.*, at the then current rate of exchange. The price paid for the latter I have not been able to ascertain correctly.

All tonnage quotations in this Return are net.

RETURN of British Shipping entered and cleared at the Port of Kanagawa during the Year ended December 31, 1881.

ENTERED.

From—	Steamers.		Sailing-vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Net Tonnage.	No.	Net Tonnage.	No.	Net Tonnage.
Great Britain	45	61,313	10	8,585	55	69,898
Hong Kong	46	63,027	..	..	46	63,027
Australia .. ..	..	..	11	6,463	11	6,463
United States	14	26,900	3	4,886	17	31,786
Europe	3	3,216	5	3,336	8	6,552
China	4	4,711	10	2,841	14	7,552
Japan	17	20,512	3	928	20	21,440
Other ports	1	1,338	..	..	1	1,338
Grand totals ..	130	181,017	42	27,039	172	208,056

Total inwards 172 vessels of 208,056 tons.

Purchased from Japanese 2 „ 708 „

174 „ 208,764 „

CLEARED.

To—	Steamers.		Sailing-vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Net Tonnage.	No.	Net Tonnage.	No.	Net Tonnage.
Great Britain	15	21,584	1	569	16	22,153
Hong Kong	40	53,849	1	384	41	54,233
Australia .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United States	38	61,133	9	10,230	47	71,363
Europe .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
China	1	702	2	438	3	1,140
Japan	38	44,456	25	14,939	63	59,395
Other ports .. ..	..	..	9	5,965	9	5,965
Grand totals ..	132	181,724	47	32,525	179	214,249

Total outwards 179 vessels of 214,249 tons.

Sold to Japanese 2 „ 619 „

181 „ 214,868 „

NAGASAKI.

Report on the Trade of Nagasaki for the Year 1881.

Acting Consul Hall to Sir H. Parkes.

Sir,

Nagasaki, June 20, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith the usual statistical information about the trade and shipping of this port for the past year, consisting of the following Tables :—

1. Imports.
2. Exports.
3. Treasure imported and exported.
4. Duties and Shipping Dues collected.
5. Foreign Shipping entered and cleared.
6. Japanese Shipping of Foreign Build entered and cleared.
7. Foreign Residents and Firms.
8. Imports from Corea.
9. Exports to Corea.
10. Shipping of Port of Kuchinotsu.

Comparison of these Tables with those of the previous year shows that the total foreign trade of the port in 1881 was less by 192,230 dollars than in 1880, while the shipping was more by 51 ships, or 23,407 tons; that the drain of specie from the port, that is to say, the balance of treasure exported to foreign countries over that imported from foreign countries in 1881, was less by 109,277 dollars than in 1880; that the revenue collected by the Customs, under the head of duties, import and export, fell off by over 8,000 dollars, while the shipping dues collected increased by about half that sum; that the Japanese shipping of foreign build entering and clearing at the port in 1881 was greater by 72,535 tons than that of the previous year; that, with the exception of Chinese, the number of resident foreigners has slightly fallen off.

The most general inference that would appear to follow from a comparison of the Tables of the last two years one with another, is that for the present the commercial activity of Nagasaki as a port of trade is slightly on the wane, while its importance as a port of shipping is rapidly waxing. This inference is confirmed if the comparison is extended from the last two years to the last four.

TRADE.

			1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
			Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Imports	..	..	1,495,198	1,674,652	1,278,066	1,001,822
Exports	..	..	2,398,501	1,982,027	2,297,591	2,381,605
Total foreign trade	..	..	3,893,699	3,656,679	3,575,657	3,383,427

SHIPPING.

			1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Entered—						
Ships	..	..	274	252	282	333
Tons	..	..	182,477	159,108	199,109	222,516

It is impossible to determine from the Custom-house Returns in what proportions the foreign trade is distributed amongst the various nationalities, but the same difficulty does not exist in the case of shipping. It will be observed that the British tonnage in 1881 shows an increase of 40,686 tons over that of the previous year, while that of other nationalities shows a decrease of 14,279 tons. The falling-off has been mainly in Russian shipping, that of the United States and Germany remaining nearly stationary. It appears from a comparison of the last five years that British shipping is steadily on the increase, the tonnage having doubled itself within that period.

BRITISH SHIPPING.

			1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Ships	..	..	155	165	161	216	280
Tons	..	..	92,217	114,823	105,563	146,042	186,728

The falling-off in Russian shipping is more apparent than real, for the large tonnage under that flag in 1880 was due to an exceptional cause, namely, the passage through this port, in the guise of merchantmen, of the cruisers of the Russian volunteer fleet, on their way to Vladivostock, at the time when the difficulty with China was pending and preparations were being made in expectation of war. The increase in British shipping is due in the main to the fact that the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers plying between Yokohama and Hong Kong now call regularly at this port for freight and the convenience of coaling.

Passing from the shipping to the trade, and comparing the value of the exports with that of the imports, we find the former to be more than double that of the latter, being a larger proportionate excess than that of any of the seven previous years. This great excess of exports over imports, coupled with the diminished drain of treasure, ought, according to the theory entertained so generally by Japanese journalists, to indicate a flourishing state of trade; but it is needless to say that the very reverse is the truth, last year's trade being the smallest the port has seen for the space of five years.

As compared with the previous year, the exports of 1881 show an increase of 84,014 dollars, while the imports have diminished by 276,244 dollars. The increase in the exports was in the item of rice, of which 64,358 piculs, valued at 134,563 dollars, were sent abroad, being about twelve times the quantity and ten times the value of the export of the previous year. The bulk of this rice went to Australia, where it finds increasing favour, the Japanese grain being there correctly esteemed as about the best in the world. Of other staple exports, camphor, coal, and tobacco show an increase, while tea and wax show a slight, and dried fish a considerable, decrease on the figures of the year before. With one exception, all the staple exports of this port have fluctuated considerably

within recent years. The exception is camphor, which shows a firm and progressive increase from 2,380 piculs, worth 38,080 dollars, in 1877, to 11,640 piculs, worth 206,073 dollars, in 1881, that is to say, a five-fold increase in quantity and value in the space of five years.

By way of putting these facts in a synoptic form, I append a Comparative Table of the Export Trade:—

Class of Goods.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Tea	169,415	83,190	114,807	90,288	82,126
Copper	1,565	..	..	..	..
Tobacco	92,418	53,242	33,227	71,912	76,945
Wax	50,380	24,604	26,174	29,432	22,431
Dried fish	387,095	299,646	432,438	456,889	338,421
Camphor	38,080	60,994	90,483	146,121	206,073
Coal	708,939	853,784	749,966	1,068,148	1,094,205
Rice	290,746	529,596	169,626	13,951	134,568
Wheat .. ..	..	149,890	13,488	..	..
Miscellaneous	340,168	343,555	351,818	420,850	426,841
Total export ..	2,078,806	2,398,501	1,982,027	2,297,591	2,381,605

Turning now to imports, with their decrease of over a quarter of a million dollars from the previous year, we find the falling-off to be, in the main, proportionately distributed amongst the leading staples, only two out of the seven, namely, woollen manufactures and metals, exhibiting an increase. The bulk of the falling-off is under the heading of Eastern produce, such as sugar, raw cotton, oil-cake, peas and beans, &c., which for years past have constituted the largest item of the local imports. Miscellaneous imports of Western origin, with the exception of kerosine, have remained steady. These two items, Eastern produce and kerosine, may safely be selected as the standards by which to test the activity or dulness of native speculative enterprise at this port. In 1881 the trade in both shrank to less than two-thirds of its dimensions in the preceding year. The cause of this retrogression is known to every one to be the state of the currency. In Nagasaki all trade bargains are made in native currency, not, as in Yokohama and Kobe, in Mexican dollars; and how can commercial enterprise be expected to flourish when its medium is a depreciated paper currency, which, last year, has been known to fluctuate to the extent of more than 4 per cent. in the course of a single day? The falling-off in another important head of imports, cotton manufactures, is due, in part at least, to a different cause, which will be noted under the heading of trade with Corea.

I append a Comparative Table of Imports for the last five years, similar to that above given for the exports.

Class of Goods.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Cotton manufactures ..	236,354	306,813	516,783	161,255	81,979
Woollen " ..	72,857	39,778	27,413	25,986	37,669
Cotton and woollen mixtures ..	24,295	21,049	27,728	17,817	10,386
Arms and ammunition ..	35,703	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Metals ..	114,536	80,234	89,050	132,777	141,418
Miscellaneous, Eastern ..	650,656	554,486	610,743	572,083	388,014
Ditto, Western ..	357,961	431,025	402,935	368,148	342,356
Ditto, not specified ..	65,807	51,803	..	..	..
Total import ..	1,578,169	1,485,188	1,674,652	1,278,066	1,001,822

Coal.—The coal trade of Nagasaki is still, as heretofore, in the main confined to the output of the Takashima mine. In 1881 the net output there was 226,107 tons, which, with 40,243 tons stock remaining from 1880, gave a total of 266,350 tons available for sale. Somewhat more than half this quantity, or 157,550 tons, were sold in Nagasaki, and 92,468 tons were exported to Hong Kong, Shanghai, and elsewhere by the colliery, leaving 16,332 tons remaining in stock. The mine is owned by the Mitsubishi Steam-ship Company, whose close relations with the Government are sufficiently well known. The next most important coal-mine in the neighbourhood, that of Mûke, is worked by the Mining Bureau of the Department of Public Works. The output of 1881 was 171,416 tons, of which quantity barely 200 tons were brought to Nagasaki for sale. About half the total output was transported to Kuchinotsu, and thence exported to Shanghai for sale. Most of the remaining half was sold at the mine.

Table No. 10 gives the cargo tonnage taken in vessels chartered by the Public Works Department for the export of the Mûke coal direct from Kuchinotsu. It will be observed that 20,263 tons, out of a total of 71,632 tons thus exported, were in British bottoms.

Trade with Corea.—In his Trade Report for 1879 Mr. Consul Troup pointed out that in the absence of a system of drawbacks on foreign goods exported from Japan to Corea, the command of the market for imports would probably be lost to the Japanese ports and gained by Shanghai. Two years' experience have amply confirmed the correctness of this forecast, as the subjoined figures show.

Exports to Corea from Nagasaki :—

					Dollars.
1879..	..	..	..	..	309,730
1880..	..	..	..	..	136,607
1881..	..	..	..	..	126,900

The principal staple of this trade is cotton manufactures, of which 291,948 dollars' worth were exported in 1879, being seven-eighths of the total export trade of that year; in 1880 cotton exports amounted only to 99,817 dollars, or less than three-fourths of the total value of exports; and in 1881 there was a still greater fall to 17,483 dollars, or less than one-seventh of the total.

The import of cotton manufactures into Nagasaki from foreign countries in 1881 was less by about 80,000 dollars than in the previous year. The export of the same manufactures, in the same year, from Nagasaki to Corea was less by the same amount. The casual connection between these two facts is obvious. Four thousand bales from Shanghai were transhipped at this port for Corea during the year.

The trade in imports into Nagasaki from Corea shows a considerable increase on the two previous years.

						Dollars.
1879	..	..	..	..	..	114,358
1880	..	..	..	..	..	127,345
1881	..	..	..	..	..	225,325

In the two previous years rice was the principal import, representing more than half the total trade, but last year it fell to about one-sixth of the total, its place as the leading import being taken by gold-dust, of which 30,783 momme, value 58,870 dollars, were imported.

I append a Comparative Table of the Corean trade for the last three years.

EXPORTS from Nagasaki to Corea.

Articles.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Cotton manufactures ..	291,948	98,817	17,488
Miscellaneous	17,382	37,700	109,408
Total	309,730	137,607	126,891

IMPORTS from Corea to Nagasaki.

Articles.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Rice	74,050	78,805	40,327
Bêche-de-mer	13,386	9,007	27,216
Beans	9,449	6,055	4,033
Hides .. ..	..	6,854	23,404
Bones	4,418	3,303	3,086
Ginseng	1,510	2,727	21,672
Gold-dust .. ..	..	..	58,690
Miscellaneous	11,545	21,003	51,767
Total imports	114,348	127,254	225,325
Add exports	309,730	137,607	126,891
Total trade	424,068	264,861	352,216

A Treaty of Friendship and Commerce was concluded in the end of last month between Corea, on the one hand, and the United States of America, on the other. A similar Treaty between Corea and Great Britain was signed on the 6th instant, and it is understood that the other Western Powers will negotiate Treaties for themselves in the course of the present year. This opening of Corea to the commerce of the world will of course materially affect its trade with Japan.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. C. HALL, *Acting Consul.*

(No. 1.)—RETURN of the Import Trade of Nagasaki for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Article.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton manufactures— (Total value, 81,979 dol. 48·6 c.)		Dol. c.
Shirtings, grey	Yards 299,774	13,722 50
" white	" 126,395	7,902 40
" dyed	" 6,520	423 00
Cotton drills	" 58,800	3,292 55
Lawns	" 112,524	5,873 08·6
T-cloths	" 53,688	2,969 35
Cotton velvets	" 48,475	9,254 00
" satins	" 2,753	320 00
Printed cotton and chintz	" 5,424	365 00
Turkey reds	" 379,118	26,420 86
Canvas and cotton duck	" 44,271	6,519 04
Cotton yarn	" 20,289	4,695 00
" goods not specified	" ..	222 70
Total .. ..	..	81,979 48·6
Woollen manufactures— (Total value, 37,668 dol. 84·3 c.)		
Woollen cloth	Yards 1,022	1,382 46
Long ells	" 6,240	1,710 00
Flannel	" 13,236	3,556 25
Lastings	" 79,028	18,832 05
Mousseline de laine	" 62,961	10,600 00
Spanish stripes	" 540	557 10
Serges	" 407	268 40
English camlets	" 2,364	530 00
Woollen goods not specified	" 1,456	232 58·3
Total .. ..	..	37,668 84·3
Mixed cotton and woollen manufactures— (Total value, 10,386 dollars.)		
Orleans	Yards 54,490	8,286 00
Italian cloth	" 10,104	2,100 00
Woollen and cotton, not specified .. ..	" ..	..
Total .. ..	..	10,386 00
Metals— (Total value, 141,418 dol. 38 c.)		
Iron, manufactured	Piculs 29,339	81,868 76
" roofing	" 173	1,200 00
" pig	" 6,179	8,061 66
" old and scrap	" 2,541	5,149 80
" wire	" 47	377 00
" ware	" ..	8,007 90
" pipes	" ..	3,605 48
" nails	Piculs 105	755 76
Spelter and zinc	" 812	5,373 28
Steel	" 307	1,719 98
Yellow metal	" 923	17,232 29
Tin and tin plate	" ..	261 00
Lead, pig	Piculs 454	2,185 00
" sheet	" 107	572 86
" pipe	" ..	212 40
" red	Piculs 189	1,330 45
" white	" ..	225 51

Article.				Quantity.		Value.	
						Dol.	c.
Brass and brassware .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,805	32
Copper and copperware .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,513	91
Total .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	141,418	38
Miscellaneous, Western—							
(Total value, 388,013 dol. 75 c.)							
Anchors and cables .. ..	..	..	..	Dozen	117	2,326	16
Beverages .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	13	104	32
Blankets .. ..	..	..	..	Number	173	605	54
Brushes .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	128	48
Books .. ..	..	..	..	Packets	73	662	60
Candles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,539	40
Carpet .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	484	76
„ tapestry .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	510	60
„ Chinese .. ..	..	..	..	Number	500	84	00
Cement .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	345	371	00
Clocks .. ..	..	..	..	Number	92	327	40
Clothings .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,736	15
Coffee .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	47	875	80
Confectionery .. ..	..	..	..	Dozen	110	195	40
Cordages .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	402	5,343	07
Coal .. ..	..	..	..	Tons	3,831	37,100	00
Drugs—							
Camphor, refined .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	3	2,020	00
Dragon's blood .. ..	..	..	..	..	2	30	00
Ginseng .. ..	..	..	..	..	6	490	00
Liquorice .. ..	..	..	..	..	3,475	6,689	00
Patchuck .. ..	..	..	..	..	20	198	00
Rhubarb .. ..	..	..	..	..	134	1,810	00
Saffron .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	1,095	30
Drugs, not specified .. ..	..	..	..	..	2,689	13,929	76
Dye-stuffs .. ..	..	..	..	..	8	284	60
Furs .. ..	..	..	..	Number	71	140	00
Flour .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	2,493	8,211	52
Glass, window .. ..	..	..	..	Cases	319	927	32
„ looking, and ware .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,431	12
Furniture .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,250	44
Gold ware .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	285	00
Gypsum .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	889	670	00
Handkerchiefs .. ..	..	..	..	Number	10,655	515	77
Hemp .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	1,029	5,902	50
„ yarn .. ..	..	..	..	..	41	2,616	80
Hoofs .. ..	..	..	..	..	66	209	00
Horns, rhinoceros .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	1,147	00
Implements and tools .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	339	66
India-rubber ware .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,817	24
Instruments, scientific .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,457	28
„ musical .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,173	56
„ surgical .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	16	00
Lamps, and parts of .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	3,241	50
Leather .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	69	2,002	56
Linen .. ..	..	..	..	Yards	1,021	284	44
Machinery .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	18,125	82
Medicine .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,758	38
Milk, butter, and cheese .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	7,822	20
Nickels .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	12	704	98
Porter and beer .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	12,060	16
Oil, bean .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	1,271	7,732	80
„ castor .. ..	..	..	..	..	95	794	40
„ kerosine .. ..	..	..	..	Galls.	605,360	75,427	98
„ not specified .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,665	72
Paint oil .. ..	..	..	..	Piculs	728	5,949	55

Article.	Quantity.	Value.
Miscellaneous, Western (<i>continued</i>)—		Dol. c.
Paints and painters' colours .. ..	..	344 48
Paper .. ..	..	1,999 76
Pepper	Piculs 78	844 00
Perfumery (principally eau de Cologne) ..	..	1,118 98
Porcelain and earthenware .. ..	..	1,398 82
Provisions .. ..	..	11,022 02
Quinine	Piculs 6	540 33
Rifles	Number 4	140 00
Scales and balances .. ..	..	234 60
Seeds .. ..	..	11,367 60
Shoes and boots	Pairs 1,167	1,187 80
Silver plate .. ..	..	409 60
Smalt and cobalt	Piculs 38	12,749 08
Soap, bar .. ..	.. 309	1,485 81
„ toilet .. ..	..	396 16
Silk manufactures	Pieces 2,164	5,119 56
„ satins .. ..	.. 813	12,171 40
„ crapes .. ..	.. 78	933 00
Stationery .. ..	..	1,422 56
Sugar, loaf	Piculs 322	3,778 32
Thread and cotton .. ..	..	470 62
Tobacco and cigars .. ..	..	5,274 85
Wines and spirits .. ..	..	26,419 56
Miscellaneous .. ..	..	41,252 19
Total .. ..	..	388,013 75
Miscellaneous, Eastern—		
(Total value, 342,355 dol. 74 c.)		
Alum	Piculs 415	700 00
Cotton, raw .. ..	.. 2,895	43,935 00
Cloves and mother cloves .. ..	.. 12	415 00
Gunny bags	Number 26,450	2,297 60
Fishing lines	Piculs 26	11,710 00
Matting for packing	Number 62	445 51
Musk	Piculs 39	3,442 00
Oil, ground-nut .. ..	.. 661	4,063 40
„ cake .. ..	.. 21,014	25,248 88
Paper, Chinese .. ..	..	3,520 00
Peas and beans	Piculs 11,358	16,932 78
Rice .. ..	.. 6,269	15,496 07
Safflower .. ..	.. 52	3,997 00
Sugar, brown .. ..	.. 15,238	82,668 50
„ candy .. ..	.. 1,881	17,309 00
„ white .. ..	.. 11,457	90,111 10
Rattans .. ..	.. 48	372 00
Tea, Chinese .. ..	.. 42	1,097 20
Tea lead .. ..	.. 84	524 00
Timber and planks .. ..	..	6,782 00
Tar and pitch	Piculs 119	213 00
Tortoise-shell .. ..	.. 21	8,935 70
Woods, red, sandal, and Japan .. ..	.. 83	206 00
Vermilion .. ..	.. 25	1,935 00
Total .. ..	..	342,355 74

RECAPITULATION.

				Dol.	¢.
Cotton manufactures ..	..	..	..	81,979	48
Woollen ..	..	..	..	37,668	84
Woollen and cotton mixed ..	..	..	..	16,386	00
Metals ..	..	..	..	141,418	38
Miscellaneous, Western ..	..	..	..	388,013	75
„ Eastern ..	..	..	..	342,355	74
Total value ..	..	..	..	1,001,822	19

(No. 2).—RETURN of the Export Trade of Nagasaki for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Article.	Quantity.	Value.
Tea—		Dol. c.
(Total value, 82,126 dol. 28 c.)		
Tea ..	Piculs 4,244	49,284 42
„ bancha ..	„ 5,965	19,850 00
„ dust ..	„ 3,925	12,991 86
Total ..	..	82,126 28
Tobacco ..	Piculs 9,224	76,945 12
Vegetable wax ..	„ 1,918	22,430 68
Coal ..	Tons 285,022	1,094,205 21
Camphor ..	Piculs 11,642	206,073 00
Dried fish—		
(Total value, 338,420 dol. 49 c.)		
Awabi ..	„ 1,188	26,646 28
Irico ..	„ 1,039	38,548 46
Cuttle fish ..	„ 12,509	240,594 20
Shell fish, dried ..	„ 1,980	19,576 50
Kaibashira ..	„ 34	385 80
Shrimps, dried ..	„ 837	12,668 55
Total ..	..	338,420 49
Rice ..	Piculs 64,358	134,563 30
Miscellaneous—		
(Total value, 426,841 dol. 39 c.)		
Awabi shell ..	„ 4,544	37,410 20
Bees' wax ..	„ 79	3,069 50
Bamboo ware ..	..	1,131 00
Charcoal ..	Piculs 36,577	19,653 68
Clothings ..	Number 531	1,026 40
Cotton goods ..	..	175 00
Drugs ..	Piculs 6,137	8,469 48
Earthenware ..	..	6,689 00
Furs ..	Number 2,012	2,520 60
Flour ..	Piculs 972	2,257 10
Gall-nuts ..	„ 50	500 40
Ginseng ..	„ 221	6,844 90
Kanten ("colle végétale") ..	„ 229	2,816 25
Lily bulbs ..	..	4,255 40
Ichô ..	Piculs 691	2,965 70
Lacquered ware ..	..	5,205 00
Mushrooms ..	Piculs 2,778	79,045 70
Matches ..	Dozen 141,000	4,577 00
Mineral products ..	Piculs 404	883 80
Peppermint oil ..	„ 9	950 50
Potatoes ..	„ 1,909	1,455 00

Article.	Quantity.	Value.
Miscellaneous (<i>continued</i>) —		Dol. c.
Provisions .. .. .	.. .. .	16,678 80
Paper, Japanese .. .. .	.. .. .	41,794 26
Porcelain .. .. .	.. .. .	27,451 09
Sharks' fins	Piculs 733	24,774 80
Sulphur	" 2,276	4,003 00
Soy	" 65	290 80
Seaweed	" 2,686	8,104 15
" cut	" 391	1,192 20
Tortoise-shell .. .. .	.. .. .	552 00
Timber, planks, &c. . . .	.. .. .	96,141 68
Wheat and barley	Piculs 616	1,050 00
Miscellaneous .. .. .	.. .. .	13,812 00
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	426,841 39

RECAPITULATION.

						Dol. c.
Tea .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	82,126 28
Tobacco .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	76,945 12
Vegetable wax .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	22,430 68
Coal .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,094,205 21
Camphor .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	206,073 00
Rice .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	134,563 30
Dried fish .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	888,420 49
Miscellaneous .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	426,841 39
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	2,381,605 47

(No. 3.)—RETURN of the Treasure imported and exported at Nagasaki during the Year ended December 31, 1881.

						Dol. c.
Imports from foreign countries .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	153,920 79
Exports to foreign countries .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	276,429 44

(No. 4.)—RETURN of the Duties on Imports and Exports and Shipping Dues collected at Nagasaki during the Year ended December 31, 1881.

						Dol. c.
Export duties .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	63,555 89·9
Import duties .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	36,591 90·2
Shipping dues .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	14,321 15

(No. 5.)—RETURN of Foreign Shipping entered and cleared at the Port of Nagasaki during the Year ended December 31, 1881.

Flag.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
American	13	9,833	11	9,358
British	280	186,728	277	185,138
Chinese .. .. .	..	..	1	561
Danish	5	3,269	5	3,259
French .. .. .	..	..	..	..
German	24	11,276	29	11,974
Russian	9	10,762	10	13,689
Swedish	1	223	1	223
Norwegian	1	275	1	275
Total	333	222,616	335	224,477

(No. 6).—RETURN of the Number and Tonnage of Japanese Vessels of Foreign Build entering and clearing at the Port of Nagasaki during the Year ended December 31, 1881.

Nature of Service. on which Vessels were engaged.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Mitsubishi Steam-ship Company's mail-steamers plying between Yokohama, Kōbe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai ..	116	204,128	112	202,292
Mitsubishi and other steamers plying between Nagasaki, Gotō Islands, Tsushima, and Corea; Osaka, Kōbe, Yokohama; Hiogo, Kagoshima, Karatsu; Shimonoseki and Hakata ..	775	149,158	772	148,964
Total	891	353,286	884	351,256

(No 7).—RETURN of Foreign Residents and Firms at Nagasaki on December 31, 1881.

Nationality.	Residents.		Firms.
	Adults.	Children.	
American	32	9	3
Austro-Hungarian	6	1	..
Belgian	1	..	..
British	72	26	5
Chinese	458	141	30 and stores 50
Danish	6	..	1
Dutch	1	..	1
French	27	..	1
German	11	5	3
Italian	9	3	3
Portuguese	4	2	..
Norwegian	1	..	..
Russian	11	6	..
Total	639	193	47 and stores 50

(No. 8).—RETURN of the Import Trade of Nagasaki for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

FROM CORREA.

Article.	Quantity.	Value.
		Dol. c.
Gold dust	Momme 30,783	53,870 25
Gold bullion	" 180	360 00
Silver bullion	" 8,140	976 80
Nickel	Piculs 4	280 00
Antimony	" ..	6 00
Whalebone	" ..	30 00
Awabi-shells	Piculs 109	656 10
Cuttle fish	" 3	70 00
Whales' meat	" 13	132 00
Kantengusa	" 512	3,427 59

Article.	Quantity.	Value.
		Dols. c.
Awabi, dried	Piculs 26	478 80
Sardines	" 1,681	6,727 00
Iriko (bêche-de-mer)	" 1,088	27,216 50
Sharks'-fins	" 1,012	3,543 40
Rice	Koku 6,721	40,327 33
Grain	" 905	4,073 44
Honey	Piculs 22	133 50
Deer-horns (?)	Pieces 4,060	60 50
Shell-fish, dried	Piculs 273	3,603 77
Provisions	"	371 64
Liquorice (?)	Koku 8	161 00
Gall-nuts	Piculs 11	142 80
Medicine	" 36	609 60
Dye stuffs	" 7	1,967 83
Ginseng	" 51	21,622 56
Bulls'-bones	" 2,057	3,086 71
Bulls'-skins	" 1,462	23,404 64
Oil-cake	" 38	57 00
Linen goods	Pieces 294	1,113 00
Silk, raw	Piculs 34	6,984 10
Cotton, raw	" 28	828 50
Skins	Pieces 5,067	976 70
Piece-goods	" 4,625	7,117 50
Pongee	" 4,266	5,175 75
Timber	"	80 00
Hair	"	510 00
Eggs	Number 16,030	92 80
Miscellaneous	Packages 130	5,050 20
Total .. .. .	..	225,325 31

(No. 9.)—RETURN of the Export Trade of Nagasaki for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

TO CORRA.

Article.	Quantity.	Value.
		Dol. c.
Cotton manufactures— (Value 17,483 dol. 15 c.)		
Grey shirtings	Pieces 660	1,518 00
Lawns	" 14,048	11,238 40
Cotton drills	" 320	800 00
Turkey reds	" 1,123	2,526 75
T-cloth	" 250	500 00
Cotton goods	" 200	900 00
Total .. .. .	..	17,483 15
Mixed cotton and woollen—		
Black orleans	Pieces 131	670 00
Miscellaneous—		
Foreign piece-goods	Pieces 18,471	38,443 00
Chinese	" 158	1,110 00
Japanese	" 480	6,608 00
" silk goods	" 1,285	4,497 50
Cotton yarn	Piculs 6	386 00
" raw	" 14	338 29
Antimony	" 80	214 75

Articles.				Quantity.	Value.
Miscellaneous (continued)—					Dol. c.
Gunny-bags	..	..	..	Number 3,422	268 16
Old copper and copper slabs	..	..	..	..	657 00
Rape-seed	..	..	..	Piculs 806	2,418 68
Laguorice	..	..	..	.. 61	398 12
Medicines	..	..	..	.. 56	1,080 00
Dyes	..	..	..	.. 55	6,281 00
Pepper	..	..	..	.. 258	3,228 25
Provisions	..	..	..	..	2,690 70
Confectionary	..	..	..	..	359 99
Vegetables	..	..	..	..	331 80
Foreign liquors	..	..	..	..	978 80
Japanese liquors	..	..	..	..	2,376 75
Sugar	..	..	..	Piculs 199	1,699 22
Kerosene oil	..	..	..	Cases 1,000	2,200 00
Matches	..	..	..	Dozen 84,422	2,954 77
Paper	..	..	..	..	471 00
Tobacco	..	..	..	..	595 50
Window-glass	..	..	..	Pieces 997	299 20
Timber	..	..	..	..	2,334 50
Fire-bricks	..	..	..	Pieces 33,622	532 10
Clocks	..	..	..	Dozen 10	590 44
Porcelain	..	..	..	..	2,122 50
Lacquer-ware	..	..	..	..	685 25
Coal	..	..	..	Tons 35	157 50
Candles	..	..	..	Piculs 23	286 92
Umbrellas	..	..	..	Number 693	293 00
Furniture	..	..	..	..	7,346 95
Copper	..	..	..	Piculs 18	333 45
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	13,490 05
Total	..	..	..	..	108,737 93

RECAPITULATION.

				Dol. c.
Cotton manufactures	..	..	..	17,483 15
Mixed cotton and woollen	..	..	..	670 00
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	108,737 93
Total	..	..	..	126,891 08

Goods transhipped at Nagasaki for Corea during the Year ended
December 31, 1881.

Article.				Quantity.
Grey shirtings	..	..	..	Bales 3,047
Lawns	..	..	..	Cases 278
Cotton drills	..	..	..	.. 75
Black orleans	..	..	..	.. 74
Turkey reds	..	..	..	.. 25
Cotton goods	..	..	..	.. 3
Chinese paper	..	..	..	Bales 30
Zinc	..	..	..	Pieces 200

(No. 10.)—RETURN of Merchant-Vessels visiting the Port of Kuchinotsu during the Year ended December 31, 1881.

Flag.			No.	Cleared Tonnage. (Coal.)
Japanese	..	..	86	47,896
British	..	..	26	20,363
American	..	..	3	2,087
German	..	..	3	1,286
Total.	..	..	88	71,632

**GENERAL REPORT OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE
YEAR 1881.**

Sir H. Parkes to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Tókió, July 31, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward a Summary of the Foreign Trade of Japan for the year 1881, accompanied by the usual Synoptical Tables, to which I have added condensed Returns of the same trade for the past fifteen years, and a Return of Foreign Residents in Japan, which is obtainable only for the last eight years.

In the concluding paragraphs of the Summary I have drawn attention to the stationary condition of the foreign trade of Japan, and have shown the causes to which I consider it is attributable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure.

Summary of the Foreign Trade of Japan for the Year 1881.

THE total value of the foreign trade of Japan during the year 1881, as shown by the Reports of Her Majesty's Consuls at the several open ports (with the exception of that of Niigata*), was 61,359,349 dollars, made up of—

					Dollars.
• Imports	..	..	..	..	31,032,742
Exports	..	..	..	..	30,326,607

These figures show a decrease of 2,682,523 dollars on the foreign trade of 1880, the total value of which was 64,041,872 dollars, of which the imports amounted to 36,622,243 dollars and the exports to 27,419,629 dollars. It will thus be seen that the falling-off in the present year is entirely owing to a decrease in the value of imports, those for 1881 amounting to 5,589,501 dollars less than those for 1880, while, on the other hand, the exports for 1881 exceed those for 1880 by 2,906,978 dollars.

The trade for 1881 was distributed as follows :—

Ports.			Imports.	Exports.	Total.
			Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Kanagawa	..	..	21,472,026	21,154,644	42,626,690
Hiôgo and Osaka	..	..	8,480,622	5,946,710	14,377,332
Nagasaki	..	..	1,001,822	2,381,605	3,383,427
Hakodate	..	..	128,272	843,628	971,900

* The Vicc-Consulate at Niigata has been abolished.

A comparison of these figures with those of the previous year will show that both the decrease in imports and increase in exports are common to all the ports, but that both of them are largest in the case of Kanagawa, where the imports fall short of the values of 1880 by 4,871,082 dollars, while the exports exceed those values by 2,576,751 dollars. The decrease in the total trade is common to all ports, with slight exception in favour of Hakodate, and is largest in the case of Kanagawa, where it amounts to 2,294,331 dollars.

IMPORTS.

The decrease which has taken place in the total value of the imports is divided among all the principal articles as follows:—

					Decrease.
					Dollars.
Cotton manufactures	..	..	..	..	922,521
Woollen ditto	..	..	..	..	867,587
Mixed cotton and woollen ditto	..	..	..	..	643,849
Metals	..	..	..	..	111,468
Arms and ammunition	..	..	..	..	140,719
Miscellaneous, foreign	..	..	..	..	2,249,684
„ Eastern	..	..	..	..	653,673

Cotton Manufactures.—The decrease under this heading appears principally in the items yarn, shirtings, velvets, lawns, and satins, while, on the other hand, Turkey reds, drills, and chintzes show an increase.

The figures for these several articles for the two years are as follows:—

				1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
				Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Yarn	..	..	..	7,700,476	7,263,776	..	436,700
Shirtings	..	..	..	2,798,237	2,258,500	..	539,737
Turkey reds	..	..	..	357,401	766,665	409,264	..
Chintzes	..	..	..	392,522	406,924	14,402	..
Velvets	..	..	..	848,359	630,670	..	217,689
Lawns	..	..	..	306,412	164,343	..	142,069
Satins	..	..	..	477,598	416,458	..	61,140
Drills	..	..	..	81,188	149,202	68,014	..

Woollen Manufactures.—The decrease in this class of goods is principally owing to the large falling-off in the import of mousseline de laine, blankets, and cloth; Spanish stripes also exhibit a slight decrease, while, on the other hand, the values of flannel, long ells, lastings, and woollen goods not specified are in excess of those for 1880, the figures in each case being as follows:—

	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Mousseline de laine ..	3,478,056	2,709,341	..	768,715
Blankets	283,357	231,187	..	52,170
Spanish stripes ..	7,381	6,104	..	1,277
Flannel	28,387	60,330	31,943	..
Long ells	21,031	28,947	7,916	..
Cloth	188,114	89,010	..	99,104
Lastings	83,153	121,434	32,281	..
Woollen goods not specified	41,004	60,234	19,170	..

Cotton and Woollen Mixtures.—Lustres alone of the principal articles in this class exhibit an increase, all others, as will be seen by the following Table, showing a large falling-off.

	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Italian cloth	898,428	531,828	..	366,600
Lustres	18,884	41,677	22,793	..
Orleans	173,337	145,672	..	27,665
Taffachelas	67,969	..	..	67,969
Cotton and woollen mixtures not specified ..	695,569	509,080	..	186,489

Metals.—Iron, tin, and steel show a decrease, the two former to a large and the latter to a small extent, but some increase is observable in the import of lead, spelter, and yellow metal.

These are the principal items in this class, and their figures for the years 1880 and 1881 are as follows:—

	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Iron, including manufactures ..	1,698,861	1,502,404	..	196,457
Lead, pig and sheet	64,216	97,120	32,910	..
Spelter and zinc	91,833	110,286	18,433	..
Tin, including tin plates	153,397	97,314	..	56,083
Steel	62,027	59,764	..	2,263
Yellow metal	78,084	93,715	19,631	..

Arms and Ammunition.—The entire import for the past year took place at the port of Kanagawa, the principal item being muspender to the value of 29,534 dollars.

Miscellaneous Foreign.—A majority of the principal articles included under this heading show a considerable decrease, the largest being that for kerosine oil, which is the most important article in the class. The value of the latter imported for 1880 fell short of that for the previous year by 784,845 dollars, and in 1881 it further declined to the amount of 421,445 dollars, the figures for the three years being:—

	Dollars.
1879	2,185,223
1880	1,400,378
1881	978,933

The following articles also exhibit a greater or less decrease when compared with the value imported in 1880:—

	1880.	1881.	Decrease.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Books	62,197	43,252	18,945
Clocks	244,265	112,199	132,066
Drugs	361,666	169,191	192,475
Dye-stuffs	367,523	258,744	118,779
Glass	194,005	180,336	6,669
Instruments	100,511	86,339	14,172
Lamps	138,351	72,524	65,827
Machinery	719,178	482,927	236,251
Medicines	609,037	258,722	350,315
Paper	78,618	68,164	10,454
Silk and cotton mixtures	394,418	320,108	74,310
Umbrella-frames	228,374	77,693	150,681
Watches	296,772	186,124	110,648
Wine, beer, and spirits	407,933	304,811	103,122

A slight increase is observable in the case of the undermentioned imports:—

	1880.	1881.	Increase.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Coal	156,210	256,623	100,413
Coral	126,743	146,461	19,718
Provisions	142,135	157,295	15,160
Leather	351,208	373,411	22,203

Miscellaneous Eastern.—Notwithstanding the large decrease of 653,673 dollars in the total value of this class of imports, the principal item, sugar, shows an increase in value of 174,030 dollars, but a diminution in quantity of 19,770 piculs, as compared with the importations of 1880, the Returns for the past year being:—

	Quantity.	Value.
	Piculs.	Dollars.
Sugar—		
Brown	487,281	2,287,158
White	172,050	1,420,485
Candy	8,899	85,390
Total	668,230	3,793,033

As against, in 1880:—

	Quantity.	Value.
	Piculs.	Dollars.
Sugar—		
Brown	559,077	2,480,580
White	120,869	1,048,441
Candy	8,055	94,970
Total	688,000	3,619,001

The import of peas and beans and oil-cake, on the other hand, largely falls short of that during 1880. Peas and beans exhibit a total value of 73,225 dollars only, as against 286,337 dollars in 1880, and 495,750 dollars in 1879. Oil-cake only appears in the Returns from Nagasaki, and to the amount of 25,249 dollars, whereas during 1880 it was imported to the extent of 233,061 dollars.

EXPORTS.

The increase which has taken place in the value of the export trade of Japan for the year 1881, as compared with 1880, is distributed among the ports as follows :—

					Increase.
					Dollars.
Kanagawa	..	..	..	..	2,576,751
Hiogo and Osaka	..	..	..	..	151,846
Nagasaki	..	..	..	..	84,014
Hakodate	..	..	..	..	94,367

And is owing to an increased export of the following goods :—

					Increase as compared with 1880.
					Dollars.
Raw silk	..	..	..	..	2,704,242
Copper	..	..	..	..	201,004
Tobacco	..	..	..	..	33,448
Vegetable wax	..	..	..	..	62,180
Camphor	..	..	..	..	109,507
Coal	..	..	..	..	19,101
Rice	..	..	..	..	51,330
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	1,131,635

Silkworms' Eggs, Tea, and Dried Fish exhibit a falling-off to the following extent :—

					Decrease as compared with 1880.
					Dollars.
Silkworms' eggs	..	..	..	..	679,881
Tea	..	..	..	..	477,063
Dried fish	..	..	..	..	248,525

Miscellaneous Exports amount to the large total of 5,889,908 dollars, and exceed those of the previous year by 1,131,635 dollars. The goods included under this heading are of a very varied nature, but the principal items and the comparative values exported during the two past years are shown in the following Table :—

	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Bamboo ware	44,020	80,227	36,207	..
Bronze ware	58,820	92,903	34,083	..
Cocoons	107,439	447,093	339,654	..
Earthenware and porcelain ..	489,067	772,127	283,060	..
Fans	292,207	267,434	..	24,773
Isinglass	292,338	333,047	40,709	..
Lacquered ware	449,642	525,382	75,740	..
Matches	369,671	249,758	..	119,913
Mushrooms	340,690	381,468	40,778	..
Paper	100,882	126,276	25,394	..
Seaweed	696,748	839,852	143,104	..
Sulphuric acid	70,423	111,391	40,968	..
Timber and planks	111,566	127,660	16,094	..
Umbrellas	103,978	101,195	..	2,783

SHIPPING.

The Returns of foreign shipping show an increase both in the number of vessels and the tonnage for 1881, as compared with that of 1880. The increase is, moreover, substantially confined to British, which (including mail-steamers) numbered 682 vessels, with a tonnage of 528,101 tons, during 1881, against 493 vessels, with a tonnage of 419,519 tons, during 1880, thus showing an increase of 189 vessels and 108,582 tons in British shipping. Danish, Dutch, and German tonnage shows a very slight increase, while American, Belgian, French, Russian, and Swedish and Norwegian has declined.

The proportion of increase and decrease under the flag of each nationality is as follows :—

INCREASE.

	Increase as compared with 1880.
	Tons.
British	108,582
Danish	277
Dutch	166
German	287
Total increase	109,312

DECREASE.

	Decrease as compared with 1880.
	Tons.
American	22,129
Chinese	1,316
French	516
Russian	14,384
Swedish and Norwegian	141
Belgian	2,250
Total decrease	40,735

In addition to the foreign shipping entered at the various open ports during the year, 32 foreign vessels, with a tonnage of 23,736 tons, visited the non-opened port of Kuchinotsu under Japanese charters, to load coal from a Government mine. Of these, 26 vessels, with a tonnage of 20,363 tons, were under the British flag. It should be added, however, as has been pointed out in the Kanagawa Trade Report, that the above statement of tonnage does not accurately exhibit the relative proportions of British and other foreign shipping, as the net tonnage only is given in the case of British ships, while in those of other nationalities the gross tonnage is returned.

TREASURE.

The treasure Returns continue to show a balance against Japan, though one of a less extent than in previous years, the amount for the past year being 6,000,857 dollars, as against 10,114,249 dollars in 1880, and 10,009,248 dollars in 1879.

CENSUS.

The total number of European and American residents is returned as 2,553, being 194 in excess of those for the previous year. This increase would probably have been larger had there been any return of the French residents at the ports of Hiogo and Osaka, or of the foreigners residing at Niigata and various places in the interior of Japan.

In addition to the usual Returns attached to the annual Summary of the Trade of Japan compiled in this Legation, that for the past year is accompanied by the following Tables:—

1. Summary of the Imports and Exports for the past fifteen years.
- 2 and 3. Synoptic Tables of the Import and Export Trade of Japan for the same period.
4. Return of the British and Foreign Shipping entered at the open ports in Japan during the same period.
5. Return of British and Foreign Residents in Japan during the past eight years.

The conclusion to be drawn from these Returns and from those now summarized is not satisfactory.

The commercial capacity of the country depends of course upon its productive power, and that, measured by its foreign exports, falls below the expectations that have naturally been formed of a country so favourably situated as Japan. Taking the value of the foreign exports at 30,000,000 dollars, the production of the country over and above its own wants averages about 86 cents, or say 3s. 6d., per head of the population of 35,000,000. This denotes a low state of national enterprise, and no material advancement may be looked for so long as three great obstacles to improvement continue to exist.

These are the absence of capital, the excessive dearness of transport in the interior, and the great fluctuations in the depreciated paper which forms the currency of the land. The latter of course occasion fluctuations of corresponding violence in the prices of all commodities and of the necessities of life, they render all business transactions hazardous and uncertain, they effectually impede the prosecution of all industries which require time for development, and they cause honest but laborious trade to be forsaken for the attractions of gambling on the currency exchanges. The remarks on the want of capital and transport which appeared in the Summary of Foreign Trade for 1878 apply with equal force at the present date.

The employment of foreign capital continues to be forbidden by law, and it costs as much to convey a ton of goods 50 miles into the interior, on the backs of men or pack-horses, as to send it from Japan to Europe. Blessed by its natural formation of an extensive coast-line, which leaves no part of the country distant more than 100 miles from the sea, the carrying-needs of the country might be met to a great extent by marine transport. But native shipping being limited in amount, and mainly confined to two privileged Companies, is also abnormally costly, and the service of cheap foreign tonnage is forbidden to the people. The latter are therefore unable to convey heavy produce from the interior to the Treaty ports, where it would be readily bought by foreigners if obtainable at remunerative rates. And in regard to those lighter and more valuable commodities which form the bulk of the foreign exports, namely, tea and silk, and in which, as Japan has to compete with China and India, she should allow her people the free use of all available facilities, it is to be regretted in the national interest that the Japanese producer should be burdened with restraints which prevent his dealing direct with the foreigner at the Treaty ports, while the latter is interdicted from dealing with the former in the producing districts, or even visiting them for commercial purposes.

While this state of things continues, and the Japanese retain their present economical opinions, which deprive trade of the freedom that is essential to its vitality and run it into the narrow groove of monopolists and guilds, the commerce of the country must be expected to remain in a comparatively stationary condition. It is obvious that Japan cannot buy more goods than she can pay for, and that her power to purchase must be measured by her power to export. It is time, therefore, that British exporters should perceive that their shipments have for some time past been in excess of demand, and that Japan can only consume a limited amount of foreign imports, even when these are supplied at prices which leave no profit to the importer.

The Returns of 1881 show a material decrease on those of the preceding year, which is common to all articles of import. As the Customs-house figures are a record of importation and not of consumption, it is to be hoped that this decrease, which is the consequence of the glut of the previous year, may also signify greater caution on the part of shippers. In that case it would not be altogether unfortunate that the Returns of 1881 compare so unfavourably with those of 1880, as the latter did not denote a rising but a ruinous trade.

British Legation, Tôkiô, July 1882.

(A.)—GENERAL SUMMARY of the Foreign Trade of Japan for the Year 1881.

Port.	1881.			1880.		
	Imported.	Exported.	Total.	Imported.	Exported.	Total.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Kanagawa ...	21,473,036	21,154,664	42,627,690	26,343,108	18,577,913	44,921,021
Hôgo and Osaka ...	8,430,632	5,946,710	14,377,342	8,779,365	5,774,864	14,554,229
Nagasaki ...	1,001,832	2,381,605	3,383,437	1,378,066	2,297,591	3,675,657
Hakodate ...	128,273	843,628	971,900	231,704	749,261	970,965
Total ...	31,033,742	30,326,607	61,360,349	36,622,243	27,419,629	64,041,872
Imports ...	...	...	...	Decrease in 1881	...	Dollars. 5,589,401
Exports ...	...	...	...	Increase in 1881	...	2,906,978
Total Imports and Exports ...	...	...	...	Decrease in 1881	...	2,682,423

(B).—SYNOPSIS Table of the Foreign Import and Export Trade of Japan for the Year 1881.

IMPORTS.

Description of Merchandise.	Kanagawa.	Hiogo and Osaka.	Nagasaki.	Hakodate.	Total, 1881.	Total, 1880.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Cotton manufactures ..	9,724,904	2,704,404	31,979	..	12,511,287	13,433,808
Woolen ditto ..	1,641,246	1,665,375	37,669	..	3,344,790	4,212,377
Mixed cotton and woollen ditto ..	788,325	439,210	10,386	..	1,237,921	1,881,770
Metals ..	1,066,815	757,161	141,418	77,030	2,042,424	2,153,392
Arms and ammunition ..	50,659	..	..	..	50,659	191,378
Miscellaneous foreign ..	4,944,567	1,714,557	388,014	51,242	7,098,380	9,848,064
Eastern produce, sugar, cotton &c. ..	3,255,510	1,149,415	342,356	..	4,747,281	5,400,954
• Total ..	21,472,026	8,430,622	1,001,822	128,272	31,032,742	36,622,243

EXPORTS.

Raw silk ..	12,667,121	..	..	..	12,667,121	9,962,879
Silkworms' eggs ..	311,140	..	..	..	311,140	991,021
Tea ..	4,491,140	2,447,593	82,126	..	7,020,859	7,497,922
Copper ..	207,676	502,170	..	..	709,846	508,842
Tobacco ..	114,456	46,215	76,945	..	237,616	204,168
Wax (vegetable) ..	17,602	268,115	22,431	..	308,148	245,968
Camphor ..	2,115	497,947	206,073	..	706,135	596,628
Coal ..	8,785	768	1,094,205	680	1,104,438	1,086,337
Dried fish ..	328,287	267,345	338,421	175,608	1,109,661	1,358,186
Rice ..	59,928	67,244	134,563	..	261,735	210,405
Miscellaneous ..	2,946,414	1,849,313	426,841	667,340	5,889,908	4,758,273
Total ..	21,154,664	5,946,710	2,381,605	843,628	30,326,607	27,419,629

(C).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Foreign Import and Export Trade of the various Treaty Ports during the Years 1880 and 1881.

Port.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Kanagawa	{ 1880	26,343,108	18,577,913	44,921,021
	1881	21,472,026	21,154,664	42,626,690
Increase .. .. .	..	..	2,576,751	..
Decrease .. .. .	..	4,871,082	..	2,294,331
Hiogo and Osaka	{ 1880	8,779,365	5,794,864	14,574,229
	1881	8,430,622	5,946,710	14,377,332
Increase .. .. .	..	..	151,846	..
Decrease .. .. .	..	348,743	..	196,897
Nagasaki	{ 1880	1,278,066	2,297,591	3,575,657
	1881	1,001,822	2,381,605	3,383,427
Increase .. .. .	..	..	84,014	..
Decrease .. .. .	..	276,244	..	192,230
Hakodate	{ 1880	221,704	749,261	970,965
	1881	128,272	843,628	971,900
Increase .. .. .	..	..	94,367	935
Decrease .. .. .	..	93,432	..	..

(D).—COMPARATIVE Table of the principal Articles of the Foreign Import Trade of Japan during the Years 1880 and 1881.

Commodities.	Year.	Total Value of Imports.
		Dollars.
Cotton manufactures	{ 1880	13,433,808
	1881	12,511,287
Decrease .. .. .	..	922,521
Woollen manufactures	{ 1880	4,212,377
	1881	3,344,790
Decrease .. .. .	..	867,587
Mixed cotton and woollen manufactures	{ 1880	1,881,770
	1881	1,237,921
Decrease .. .. .	..	643,849
Metals	{ 1880	2,153,892
	1881	2,042,424
Decrease .. .. .	..	111,468
Arms and ammunition	{ 1880	191,378
	1881	50,659
Decrease .. .. .	..	140,719

Commodities.				Year.	Total Value of Imports.
					Dollars.
Miscellaneous foreign	..	..	.	{ 1880 1881	9,348,064 7,098,380
Decrease	..	..	..	..	2,249,684
Miscellaneous Eastern produce (Sugar, cotton, &c.)	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	5,400,954 4,747,281
Decrease	..	..	..	..	653,673

(E.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the principal Articles of the Foreign Export Trade of Japan during the Years 1880 and 1881.

Commodities.				Year.	Quantity.	Total Value of Exports.
						Dollars.
Raw silk (including floss and waste)	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Piculs 30,134 ,, 36,855	9,962,879 12,667,121
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	2,704,242
Silkworms' eggs	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Cards 530,452 ,, 374,494	991,021 311,140
Decrease	..	..	..	..	..	679,881
Tea	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Piculs 303,251 ,, 288,260	7,497,922 7,020,859
Decrease	..	..	..	..	..	477,063
Copper	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Piculs 23,970 ,, 42,603	508,842 709,846
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	201,004
Tobacco	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Piculs 21,411 ,, 23,635	204,168 237,616
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	33,448
Wax, vegetable	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Piculs 14,221 ,, 22,373	245,968 308,148
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	62,180
Camphor	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Piculs 26,499 ,, 36,838	596,628 706,135
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	109,507
Coal	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Tons 286,057 ,, 287,388	1,085,337 1,104,438
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	19,101
Dried fish	..	..	..	{ 1880 1881	Piculs 76,762 ,, 55,116	1,358,156 1,109,661
Decrease	..	..	..	..	..	248,525

Commodities.					Year.	Quantity.		Total Value of Exports.
								Dollars.
Rice	..	..	..	..	{ 1880	Piculs	68,108	210,405
					{ 1881	„	106,560	261,735
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51,330
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	{ 1880	..	..	4,758,273
					{ 1881	..	..	5,889,908
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,131,635

(F.)—RETURN of Treasure imported from, and exported to, Foreign Countries during the Year 1881.

Port.				Imported.	Exported.	Total.
				Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Kanagawa	..	..	..	555,501	4,786,744	5,342,245
Hiogo and Osaka	..	..	..	1,146,725	2,792,830	3,939,555
Nagasaki	..	..	..	153,920	276,429	430,349
Hakodate	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	1,856,146	7,856,003	9,712,149

(G.)—RETURN of Foreign Shipping entered at the open Ports of Japan during the Year 1881.

Flag.	Kanagawa.		Hiogo and Osaka.		Nagasaki.		Hakodate.		Total, 1881.		Total, 1880.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
American (general)	..	30,369	10	12,863	13	9,553	3	1,882	60	54,667	87	81,875
" (mail-steamers)	..	91,433	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	91,433	17	80,354
British (general)	..	126,579	114	125,743	280	186,728	16	7,574	528	446,624	455	369,830
" (mail-steamers)	..	81,477	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	81,477	38	49,689
Chinese	2	1,315
Danish	..	1,376	1	967	5	3,259	..	..	9	5,602	12	5,325
Dutch	..	263	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	263	3	97
French (general)	..	1,724	1	679	..	..	..	..	5	2,403	1	869
" (mail-steamers)	..	40,590	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	40,590	27	42,640
German	..	11,563	7	3,139	24	11,276	5	1,775	66	27,753	63	27,466
Hawaiian
Italian
Russian	..	284	1	498	9	10,752	5	856	19	12,390	25	25,774
Spanish
Swedish and Norwegian	2	498	..	..	2	498	2	639
Belgian	2	2,250
Total	293	385,658	134	148,889	333	222,066	29	12,087	799	763,700	734	695,123

Note.—In the above Return the British *net* tonnage is given, while in the case of other nationalities the figures represent the *gross* tonnage.

(H.)—RETURN of Foreign Residents and Firms at the open Ports of Japan during the Year 1881.

Nationality.	Kanagawa.		Tôkiô.		Hiôgo and Osaka.		Nagasaki.		Hakodate.		Total.	
	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.
American ..	275	33	72	..	87	13	41	3	7	..	482	49
Austro-Hungarian ..	6	1	6	..	1	1	7	..	..	..	20	2
Belgian ..	10	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	11	2
British ..	594	54	158	2	248	45	98	5	29	3	1,127	109
Danish ..	21	1	3	..	7	..	6	1	1	..	38	2
Dutch ..	46	2	3	..	17	4	1	1	..	..	67	7
French ..	164	41	46	..	..	..	27	1	9	..	246	42
German ..	190	22	44	..	49	10	16	3	2	1	301	36
Greek ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawaiian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	16	3	13	..	..	..	12	3	..	..	41	6
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Portuguese ..	86	..	1	..	13	..	6	..	..	..	56	..
Russian ..	72	..	..	..	..	..	17	..	1	..	90	..
Spanish ..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..
Swedish and Norwegian ..	28	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	31	..
Swiss ..	34	11	1	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	37	13
Total Europeans and Americans ..	1,498	170	347	2	426	75	233	17	49	4	2,553	268
Chinese ..	2,245	..	..	..	683	48	599	30	26	..	3,553	78
Grand total ..	3,743	170	347	2	1,109	123	832	47	75	4	6,106	346

[1446]

(I.)—SUMMARY of Imports and Exports for fifteen Years ending
December 31, 1881.

Year.			Imports.	Exports.	Total.
			Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1867	..	..	15,952,388	12,123,674	28,076,062
1868	..	..	15,000,371	20,435,133	35,435,504
1869	..	..	17,356,631	11,475,645	28,832,276
1870	..	..	31,120,641	15,143,246	46,263,887
1871	..	..	17,745,605	19,184,805	36,930,410
1872	..	..	26,188,441	24,294,532	50,482,973
1873	..	..	27,443,368	20,660,994	48,104,362
1874	..	..	24,226,629	20,164,585	44,391,214
1875	..	..	28,174,194	17,917,845	46,092,039
1876	..	..	23,969,004	27,578,851	51,547,855
1877	..	..	25,900,541	22,866,708	48,767,249
1878	..	..	33,334,392	25,259,419	59,593,811
1879	..	..	32,603,838	27,372,976	59,976,814
1880	..	..	36,622,243	27,419,629	64,041,872
1881	..	..	31,032,742	30,326,607	61,359,349
Total ..			386,671,028	323,224,649	709,895,677
Average annual trade ..			25,778,068	21,548,310	47,326,378

(II).—SYNOPSIS Table of the Import Trade of Japan for fifteen Years ending December 31, 1881.

Description of Goods.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Yarn	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Shirtings...	1,360,688	1,763,191	2,612,340	3,700,277	3,609,444	5,333,343	3,337,046	3,375,654	4,097,850	4,131,914	4,059,590	7,563,963	6,179,833	7,700,476	7,263,776
Other cotton manufac- tures	2,694,078	1,724,564	1,760,440	1,730,532	3,459,460	2,256,926	3,366,598	3,706,638	2,616,723	2,397,696	2,312,929	2,545,631	3,649,223	2,795,237	2,255,000
Mousseline de laine*	1,713,539	1,234,538	873,343	1,843,644	912,584	1,874,887	3,070,544	1,936,668	2,276,311	1,893,053	1,931,856	2,629,635	2,282,810	2,935,096	2,959,011
Other woollen and wool- len and cotton goods .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,074,931	2,393,137	2,263,273	2,373,621	2,779,953	3,126,042	3,478,066	2,709,361
Metals	3,184,471	2,610,838	2,010,553	1,995,364	2,056,789	7,572,180	7,304,307	2,244,490	2,383,610	3,011,843	3,004,457	3,013,675	2,353,970	2,616,091	1,873,370
Arms and ammunition...	309,171	683,780	632,356	320,681	536,291	416,642	451,302	1,131,185	1,043,382	898,531	1,592,052	1,888,006	1,644,304	2,153,592	2,042,424
Raw cotton	1,618,840	2,730,651	1,857,626	206,908	293,120	383,617	577,646	20,885	44,576	61,959	461,739	296,578	46,494	191,378	50,659
Sugar	757,104	783,084	865,940	771,144	603,340	67,376	146,569	1,152,096	363,669	724,911	423,439	259,207	101,603	170,441	196,719
Rice	1,660,554	345,267	1,597,944	2,452,235	3,308,549	2,266,890	2,108,855	2,579,406	3,452,958	2,743,830	2,572,143	3,073,282	3,428,228	3,619,001	3,793,033
Kerosine... ..	757,602	1,315,705	2,769,182	12,756,331	708,190	...	34,192	14,873	6,579	...	...	...	248,372	134,019	134,828
Government goods† Other miscellaneous— Foreign ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	59,694	323,374	292,646	590,032	455,792	603,735	1,856,381	2,186,223	1,400,378	973,933
Eastern ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	797,396	1,809,115	3,476,277	806,801	670,537	494,110	...	...	...
Total	15,952,388	15,000,371	17,356,631	31,120,641	17,745,606	26,198,441	27,443,308	24,226,629	28,174,194	23,969,004	25,900,541	33,334,392	32,603,838	36,622,243	31,093,742

* Included in other woollens up to the year 1874.

† No Returns until the year 1873.

‡ Included in general Returns.

(III).—SYNOPSIS Table of the Export Trade of Japan for fifteen Years ending December 31, 1881.

Description of Goods.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Silk, all kinds, and co- coons	5,598,510	10,761,081	5,042,795	5,309,583	8,457,839	8,189,143	7,750,015	5,894,567	5,992,913	14,306,450	10,330,308	9,335,875	11,140,640	9,962,879	12,667,121
Silkworms' eggs ..	2,802,572	4,199,138	2,738,500	3,473,150	2,184,688	1,963,159	3,032,460	731,275	474,921	1,902,271	346,998	682,606	582,623	991,092	811,140
Tea	2,006,023	8,084,680	2,019,120	3,848,231	4,651,292	5,445,438	4,398,711	7,792,244	6,915,692	5,427,218	4,409,330	4,413,457	7,445,489	7,497,922	7,020,859
Copper	61,510	...	134,735	461,093	416,630	1,353,645	765,815	550,397	425,160	289,708	828,111	866,384	563,717	508,842	709,846
Tobacco	33,140	18,475	31,906	94,113	269,359	669,240	274,529	259,687	901,148	88,496	239,288	107,547	141,653	204,168	237,616
Wax (vegetable) ..	123,443	254,324	98,420	64,190	161,334	347,542	377,670	215,642	186,244	177,398	164,977	106,367	329,974	245,968	308,148
Cumpher	97,293	114,489	168,202	228,889	138,575	152,579	71,026	119,813	136,073	182,477	240,065	309,979	455,389	596,638	704,135
Coal	262,629	73,584	101,680	159,117	483,130	573,527	459,278	551,580	858,883	765,726	717,819	857,322	754,669	1,085,337	1,104,438
Dried fish	300,375	193,689	183,941	328,391	410,034	324,000	716,399	901,583	663,639	932,580	835,660	1,031,355	1,194,650	1,358,186	1,109,661
Rice .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	3,122,931	521,709	839,619	17,091	810,760	2,260,936	4,641,653	375,945	210,405	261,735
Miscellaneous ..	1,333,179	1,735,573	956,336	1,176,490	2,011,424	2,153,028	2,363,332	2,399,399	2,046,081	2,710,767	2,513,226	4,019,881	4,090,329	4,758,273	5,889,908
Total	12,123,674	30,435,133	11,475,645	15,143,246	19,184,805	24,294,532	20,660,994	20,164,585	17,917,845	27,578,851	23,866,708	26,359,419	27,372,976	27,419,639	30,326,607

(IV.)- RETURN of British and Foreign Shipping entered at all Ports of Japan for fifteen Years.

Year.			British.		Other Foreign Countries.		Total.	
			Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1867	..	..	348	139,006	251	159,154	599	298,160
1868	..	..	496	192,185	461	389,581	957	581,766
1869	..	..	897	410,105	713	659,293	1,610	1,069,398
1870	..	..	661	319,471	902	841,704	1,563	1,161,175
1871	..	..	349	166,929	560	734,241	909	901,170
1872	..	..	382	204,077	520	756,427	902	960,434
1873	..	..	405	234,459	599	804,948	1,004	1,039,407
1874	..	..	367	237,432	532	732,510	899	969,942
1875	..	..	350	252,146	481	699,377	831	951,523
1876	..	..	356	302,039	345	378,518	701	680,557
1877	..	..	403	315,518	343	308,459	746	623,977
1878	..	..	487	417,691	351	331,181	838	749,529
1879	..	..	402	341,029	306	300,851	708	641,880
1880	..	..	493	419,519	241	275,604	734	695,123
1881	..	..	582	528,101	207	235,599	789	763,700

Note.—In the above Return the British *net* tonnage is given, while in the case of other nationalities the figures represent the *gross* tonnage.

(V.)—RETURN of Foreign Residents and Firms at the open Ports of Japan for eight Years from 1874 to 1881.

Year.			British.		Other Foreign Countries.		Chinese.		Total.	
			Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.
1874	..	..	1,170	155	1,238	215	2,723	95	5,131	465
1875	..	..	1,282	109	1,301	148	..	..	..	..
1876	..	..	1,242	80	1,472	141	..	..	..	..
1877	..	..	1,156	83	1,336	149	2,107	53	4,599	285
1878	..	..	1,067	92	1,410	151	3,028	40	5,505	287
1879	..	..	1,035	90	1,363	141	3,649	89	6,047	320
1880	..	..	1,057	108	1,302	150	3,584	102	5,943	360
1881	..	..	1,127	109	1,426	159	3,553	78	6,106	346

JAPAN. No. 2 (1882).

REPORT

BY

HER MAJESTY'S ACTING CONSUL
AT HAKODATE

ON THE

LACQUER INDUSTRY OF JAPAN.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1882.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.
1882.

[The Specimens alluded to in this Report are exhibited in No. 1 Museum, in the
Royal Gardens at Kew.]

Report by Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Hakodate on the Lacquer Industry of Japan.

Tôkiô, January 13, 1882.

THE following Report is intended chiefly as a description of the articles of various kinds illustrative of the lacquer industry of Japan, collected for the use of the Museum of Economic Botany at Kew, under instructions from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tôkiô.

While preparing it, it was found that a number of Japanese terms had to be employed, which without a somewhat detailed explanation would be unintelligible to any one not acquainted with the Japanese language and not familiar with the technicalities of the lacquer trade. A short description of the various processes through which lacquer passes, from the planting of the tree to the completion of the decoration in various styles, has therefore been given, but all historical and other details not specially called for have been omitted.

I have considered it advisable to make each step a progressive one, detailing the various processes as nearly as possible in the order in which they follow each other in actual practice, together with the materials and implements employed.

Thus, after describing the cultivation of the lacquer tree, a list of the tools used for tapping is given, followed by a description of the method pursued by the tappers, and so on.

The headings under which the subject-matter divides itself are as follows:—

1. Cultivation of the lacquer tree.
2. Tools used in tapping.
3. Mode of tapping and treating the tree.
4. Various woods used in making lacquer ware.
5. Various kinds of lacquer and mixtures used—
 - (a.) For plain work.
 - (b.) For lacquering with gold.
6. Implements and materials used in the manufacture of plain lacquer.
7. Mode of applying the lacquer in making—
 - (a.) *Hon-jî* (real basis).
 - (b.) *Kata-jî* (hard basis).
 - (c.) *Han-dan-jî* (half-step basis).
 - (d.) *Manzo*, so called after a lacquer worker of that name.
 - (e.) *Ka-no-jî* (inferior basis).
 - (f.) *Shibu-jî* (Persimmon)—(juice basis).
 - (g.) *Sabi-sabi* (double sabi).
 - (h.) *Kaki-awase* (mixture), or *Kuro-shunkei* (black Shunkei), from the name of its inventor.
 - (i.) *Aka-shunkei* (red Shunkei).
 - (j.) *Kijiro* (colour of the grain of wood).
 - (k.) *Red* and *coloured* lacquers.

8. Tools and materials used in the manufacture of gold lacquer.

9. Mode of making gold lacquer—

- (a.) *Togi-dashi* (bringing out by grinding).
- (b.) *Hira-makiye* (flat gold lacquer).
- (c.) *Taka-makiye* (raised gold lacquer).
- (d.) Lacquering on metal.

Accompanying these notes is a short paper on the subject of lacquer, read at a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan on the 12th October, 1880, which may prove of some interest, as containing a few historical and other details here left unmentioned.

The present investigations have shown that certain statements therein made must be modified, so that where the description of any process differs—especially that relating to the tapping of the trees—the present paper must be taken as the correct one.

Great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining thoroughly reliable information, as not only are the artificers, for the most part, uneducated, but they are entirely ignorant of what takes place in any other department except that to which they have been brought up. A well-known and most intelligent manufacturer, Takei Tōsuke, who has been over twenty years himself a worker in gold lacquer, and from whom great assistance has been derived in bringing together the present collection, was quite unaware of the mode of tapping and treating the trees, and had never even seen a cut specimen of the wood until the pieces now forwarded were procured. He states that his head workman, a highly-skilled artizan over 50 years of age, hardly knows the name of a single article that he uses. Having, however, communicated direct with the persons who conduct the several branches, it is hoped the following pages will contain no inaccuracies.

The *Rhus vernicifera*, the well-known lacquer tree of Japan, is met with all over the main island, and also in smaller quantities in Kiushiu and Shikoku, but it is from Tōkiō northwards that it principally flourishes, growing freely on mountains as well as in the plains, thus indicating that a moderate climate suits the tree better than a very warm one. Since early days the cultivation of the tree has been encouraged by the Government, and as the lacquer industry increased plantations were made in every province and district. The lacquer tree can be propagated by seed sown at the end of January or the beginning of February. The first year the seedlings reach a height of from 10 inches to 1 foot. The following spring the young trees are transplanted about 6 feet apart, and in ten years an average tree should be 10 feet high, the diameter of its trunk $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches, and its yield of lacquer sufficient to fill a 3-ounce bottle.

A more speedy method is, however, generally adopted. The roots of a vigorous young tree are taken, and pieces 6 inches long and the thickness of a finger are planted out in a slanting direction a few inches apart, 1 inch being left exposed above the ground. This takes place in the end of February and through March, according to the climate of the locality. These cuttings throw a strong shoot of from 18 to 20 inches the first year, and are likewise planted out the following spring. Under equally favourable circumstances these trees would in ten years be nearly 25 per cent. larger in girth, some 2 or 3 feet higher, and would yield nearly half as much more sap than the trees raised from seed.

It has not hitherto been the custom to bestow any special care on the trees after planting them out, but in cases where leaf or other manure has been applied they are much finer. Of late years hill sides and waste grounds alone have been used for lacquer plantations, as, owing to the rise in the price of cereals and farm produce generally, it does not pay the farmers

to have their land cumbered with trees. Those that have been hitherto planted along the borders of the fields are being rapidly used and uprooted, and, where practicable, mulberry trees are planted instead, with a view to rearing silkworms. Nevertheless, as a good workman is expected during the season to tap an average of 1,000 trees ten years old, and as the Province of Yechizen alone sends out about 1,500 "tappers" yearly to the various lacquer districts, it will be seen that an immense production annually takes place, stimulated, doubtless, by the demand for cheap lacquered articles abroad.

It should also be mentioned that to remedy the possible exhaustion of the supply, and in view of the great rise which has taken place in the price of lacquer, several Companies are being projected to plant waste lands with the tree. A ten-year-old tree, which some five years ago only cost from 1 to 2 sen, now costs 10 sen, which, allowing even for the depreciation in the value of the paper currency, shows a rise of about 500 per cent.

The best transparent lacquer comes from the districts of Tsugaru, Nambu, Akita, and Aidzu. It is largely used by the workers of Kyoto, Osaka, and the southern provinces, but though also used in Tôkiô is not so much appreciated there as the lacquer produced from the neighbourhood of Chichibu in the Province of Mus-ashi, from Nikko in Shimotsuke, and that produced in the Provinces of Kôdzuke and Sagami, which hardens more rapidly, and is best for black lacquer.

There are some districts the lacquer obtained from which is best for certain kinds of work, but is not so well adapted for others. The kind which is used for transparent lacquer is mixed in large tubs, to insure a uniform quality, and being allowed to stand for some time (say, a week or ten days), the best portion, which is ordinarily 70 per cent. of the whole, is skimmed off. This is used for *Nashi-ji* and *Shu* lacquer, while the remainder is used for making inferior mixtures, such as *Jôhana*, &c., all described elsewhere. Almost all the various classes of lacquer are similarly dealt with to insure uniformity, as some qualities dry much quicker and are better than others, and the slow-drying qualities would otherwise remain unsold.

The whole country produces at present on an average from 30,000 to 35,000 tubs per annum, each tub being of about four gallons capacity. Some 70 to 80 per cent. of this total amount is produced from Tôkiô northwards. Nearly one-half of the lacquer produced is sent to the Osaka market, where it is prepared as required and resold all over the western and southern provinces, the remaining portion being used up locally and in Tôkiô.

The usual age at which a tree is tapped is ten years, but in some few cases a tree is tapped when only three or four years old. The best lacquer for transparent varnish is obtained from trees from one to two hundred years old, as their sap has more body, and is more glutinous. The tools used in obtaining the lacquer are as follows:—

Kawa-muki (bark parer), a curved knife with which the workman smoothes all inequalities of the bark before tapping the tree.

Yeda-gama (branch sickle), an instrument with a gouge on one side and a knife on the other, fitted with a piece of bamboo to give the hand a good hold when tapping branches.

Kaki-gama (scraping sickle), a similar instrument, without the piece of bamboo used for tapping trees generally.

Yeguri (a gouge), used in autumn to scrape the bark smooth before giving the final cut with the *kaki-gama*.

Natsu-bera (summer spatula), used for scraping the sap out of the incisions into the receptacle named *gô*.

Hôchô (knife), used for cutting the bark of branches in obtaining *seshime* or branch lacquer.

Seshime-bera (seshime spatula), used for collecting the sap which exudes from the incisions in the bark of the branches.

Gô, the bamboo or wooden pot, in which the sap is put as it is collected.

Gô-guri (pot gouge), a long straight knife for scraping the lacquer out of the pot into the tub.

Te-bukuro (glove), worn by the tapper to protect his hand from contact with the sap.

The first tapping takes place about the beginning of June. The standard number of trees allotted to a tapper for the season is 1,000—presuming them to be about ten years old (the size of the small specimen), about 800 of the size of the large specimen, and so on, less and less according to the size of the trees. Having cleared away the grass from the roots, the workman makes the round of his allotted trees, marking each with small notches about half an inch long. The first of these notches is made about six inches from the bottom of the tree on the right-hand side; the next, one "hand stretch" higher up on the left-hand side; the next, one "hand stretch" higher on the right, and so on, alternately as far as the workman can reach. These preliminary markings, which are to determine all the places for subsequent tapping, take fully four days, being at the rate of 250 trees a-day. The tapper then goes round, provided with the bark scraper, the ordinary scraping sickle, the summer spatula, and the pot to hold the lacquer, and first smoothing the bark where required gives one cut above and one cut below the two lower marks, and one cut above the remainder of the other marks, the cut being in each case about an inch and a-half long. After giving the cut the instrument is reversed, and the knife is run along the incision to insure the bark being entirely cut through. This process is repeated every four days, each incision being made a little longer than the preceding one, up to the fifth tapping, inclusive, after which the remaining incisions are made of the same length. At each round, when all the requisite incisions have been made on the tree, the workman gathers the sap which has exuded with the spatula, beginning with the two lowest incisions, and so on to the uppermost cut. Twenty-five is considered the normal number of cuts, which, at the rate of one incision at each place every four days, occupy 100 working days, and allowing for some twenty days of rain during which the sap cannot be drawn, the season is brought to a close by the end of September. If the workman has any large trees to tap, the whole of which he cannot reach when making his ordinary rounds, he taps all he can reach, and when his round is concluded he returns with a ladder, and mounting each tree taps the remainder of the trunk and the leading limbs in the same manner as above described, previous to making a fresh round.

When the full number of incisions has been given, the workman gives an extra long cut underneath all the initial notches on each tree to obtain the sap which has collected there, and another above the uppermost cut of each set. These incisions are called *Ura-me* (back marks). The workman also makes a number of cuts, each about a foot apart, in all the branches whose diameter exceeds one inch. This operation requires about sixteen days to get through the whole number of trees. The next operation is called *Tomé* (the finish). This consists in a number of incisions completely encircling the tree wherever the workman perceives a likely place. The next process consists in cutting off all the branches: the larger ones are once more tapped after being cut off to extract any sap that may still remain in them, and the small branches which have not

yet been tapped are tied in bundles and steeped in water for about ten days. When taken out and dried the bark is cut with a knife, and the sap which exudes is collected with the branch spatula, and is called *Seshime* lacquer. This word seems to be derived from *Sehi*, the name of a machine, and *shimeru* (to press), from a practice which obtained in olden days of pressing the branches in such a machine to obtain the sap. It is also known as *Yeda urushi*, or branch lacquer, which latter more explicit term is, for the sake of convenience, used throughout this Report.

The sap obtained from the first five cuts above each notch is poor, containing, as it does, a large proportion of water; the middle fifteen cuts produce the best sap, and the sap obtained from the last five incisions is poor, and lacks consistency. Again, the sap obtained from the *Ura-me* (back marks) and *Tomé* (finishing) cuts is very good, and dries quickly.

The sap from the first twenty-five cuts is mixed and sold together but the *Ura-me* and *Tomé* sap is almost always mixed and sold separately. The operations above described kills the tree in one season, but frequently the tree is made to last two years or more, by giving only half the number of incisions, and reserving the *Ura-me* and *Tomé* cuts for the final year. The sap obtained the second and following years is, however, of an inferior quality, and this method is only resorted to by private individuals, who tap their own trees during the intervals of farming. Ordinarily, a wholesale dealer in lacquer buys so many thousand trees from the owner, and, as a matter of course, extracts the sap with as little delay as possible, making a contract for the purpose with professional tappers. A first-rate workman will receive over 100 yen (equal, at the present low rate of exchange, to nearly 13½ sterling) for the season, and can collect four and-a-half tubs (equivalent to eighteen gallons), but the average receive .75 yen, and collect proportionately less. The present price per tub of lacquer ranges from 90 to 100 yen.

After the sap has been taken the exhausted tree, which remains the property of the seller, is cut down by him, and is used for firewood, for building purposes, or for making boxes. The roots of the young trees throw from three to five shoots the following spring, and these can be used in six or seven years. Of these five sprouts three are commonly much stronger than the other two. In such cases, the strong ones only are tapped and cut down, the weaker ones being allowed a year or two longer to grow, when, receiving the whole of the nutriment, they shoot up in one year as much as an ordinary tree would in three. After tapping and cutting down fresh shoots to the number of five are again allowed to sprout, and so on, the root not seeming to become exhausted by the process; but when a very old tree is cut down the root will not give out new shoots. In the northern provinces very old and large trees are met with in considerable quantities. These were kept for the sake of their berries, from which the wax used for the Japanese candles were obtained. This was the more profitable use to which to put the tree, as a good tree, from 80 to 100 years old, yielded yearly, on an average, equal to 6s., while the price of a ten-year-old tree to be used for extracting the sap was under ½d. Previous to the Revolution of 1868 every tree reserved for making wax was officially registered, and the owner was not allowed to mutilate it in any way. Even if a tree died, he had to get official permission before removing the stump. The Shōgun's Government and also the local magnates had large plantations of the lacquer tree reserved for wax, but since the opening of the country to foreign trade, and the introduction from abroad of kerosene oil, the wax industry has greatly declined, and there are now no restrictions on the free sale of the tree for tapping, and, consequently, all the fine old trees (which will sell for from 5 to 6 yen each) are fast disappearing.

To show the relative value of the berries and the trees a few years ago the following may be cited:—A wholesale lacquer merchant informed me that five or six years ago he went as usual to purchase trees in the district of Aidzu, and among others bought one tree for a yen (then equal to 4s.), the owner reserving the berries that might be got as his own property. He does not consider the bargain was a cheap one, but the owner realized the sum of 80 sen (equal to 3s. 2d.) from that year's yield of the berries alone before cutting down the tree.

It should be mentioned that the above description of the method pursued in tapping the lacquer tree is that which is recognized as the proper one; but, as even the specimens of the lacquer tree forwarded will show, the rule is not rigidly observed, the style and size of the tree, and the caprice of the workman, combining to cause variations in the number of incisions given in each series.

Various Woods used in making Lacquer Ware.

The woods chosen for lacquering on are naturally selected according to the use to which the lacquered article is to be put. For shelves, cabinets, and boxes of all kinds, the following are principally used, and are set down in the order of their excellence:—

Hinoki (*Chamæcyparis obtusa*).—This is by far the best wood for making boxes, as it does not warp.

Kiri (*Paulownia imperialis*).—A light wood, used for clothes boxes, which are only lacquered on the outside. It is also used for making tea-caddies, as the wood has no smell.

Hôno-ki (*Magnolia hypolema*).—All sword sheaths have hitherto been made of this wood.

Sawara (*Chamæcyparis pisifera*).—This is a wood of a coarser grain than *Hinoki* (*Ch. obtusa*).

Hime-ko-matsu.—This wood is used for carved figures of men, animals, &c. It is not liable to split and crack.

Tsuga (*Abies tsuga*).

Hiba (*Thujopsis dolabrata*).—Used for making cheap articles.

Akamatsu (*Pinus densiflora*).

Sugi (*Cryptomeria japonica*).—This wood is only used in making the cheapest and most inferior goods.

The following woods are mostly used in the manufacture of such articles as are turned in a lathe, as bowls, rice cups, round trays, &c.:

Keyaki (*Planera japonica*), the best being obtained from the Province of Hiuga.

Shoji.

Sakura (*Prunus pseudo-Cerasus*).

Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*).

Tchô (*Ginkgo biloba*).

I-go.—Grown in large quantities in the neighbourhood of Hakone. It is principally used in the manufacture of toys and cheap articles.

Buna.—Principally used in the district of Aidzu for the same kind of utensils as *Keyaki* and *Sakura*, but being a brittle wood, it cannot be turned in a lathe to make such fine articles; those made of this wood are coarser and heavier. For raised gold lacquering over the unvarnished surface, the following hard ornamental woods are often used:—

Shitan.

Tagayasan.

Karin (quince).

Kuwa (mulberry).

Keyaki (*Planera japonica*).—Ornamental grain.

*Various Kinds of Lacquer and Mixtures used.**(a.) For Plain Work.*

Ki-urushi (crude lacquer) is the generic name by which all lacquer obtained from the trunks of live trees is known. It forms the basis of nearly all the various mixtures used in making lacquer ware.

Seshime (branch lacquer).—This kind is obtained from the branches of the trees, as described above; but the yield is only about 1 per cent. in comparison with other lacquer. As, however, in working the proportion of nearly 90 per cent. is required, the lacquer manufacturers sell a mixture, which is stated to be a compound of true branch lacquer, the best crude lacquer, *Ura-me* and *Tomé* lacquer, *funori* (seaweed jelly), sweet potatoes grated fine, the whole colored, as may be necessary, with soot. The proportions in which these materials are used cannot be ascertained, and, indeed, each manufacturer uses his own special mixture, but the extraneous additions are believed not to injure the quality of the whole.

True branch lacquer becomes extremely hard when once dry, but used alone will not dry under some twenty days, so that now, when time is an object, the pure sap is but little used. Previous to the Revolution of 1869 branch lacquer of a very superior quality, and which would dry quickly, was obtained by using the young shoots which sprouted yearly from the roots after the trees had been cut down. This kind was called *Ki-seshime* (crude branch lacquer), and was made under directions from the Government, who received it as taxes; but the practice has been discontinued of late. The price of pure branch lacquer is—owing to the difficulty in drying—only 70 per cent. of ordinary good lacquer.

Rô-urushi (black lacquer).—This is made by adding to crude or branch lacquer about 5 per cent. of the tooth-dye used by women (*Haguro*), a liquor formed by boiling iron filings in rice vinegar, and exposing it to the sun for several days, stirring the mixture frequently till it becomes a deep black.

In preparing all lacquer—from the crude lacquer to the various mixtures—the principal object is to get rid of the water that exudes from the tree with the sap. To effect this, it is exposed in broad flat wooden dishes, and stirred in the sun. This, however, alone will not cause the original water to evaporate, so from time to time—ordinarily about three times in the day—a small portion of clean water is stirred in, say, 1 per cent. each time, for a couple or three days, according to the heat of the sun. All the water then evaporates together. No lacquer will dry until this process has been gone through. If the lacquer is old, *i.e.*, has been tapped a long time before using, it is much more difficult to dry. In such cases a portion of fresh lacquer is added to the old by the wholesale dealers, or else the manufacturers, instead of water, sometimes mix *saké* (rice beer) or alcohol, to “quicken” it.

A very remarkable property of lacquer should be mentioned. If crude lacquer, which is originally of the colour and consistency of cream, is exposed to the sun for a few days without adding water, it loses its creamy colour, and becomes quite black, or nearly so, but also becomes thinner and transparent, or rather translucent, as can be seen when it is smeared on a white board. It will not now, however, dry if applied to an article, even if kept a month or more in the damp press. But if water is mixed with the lacquer which has thus been exposed and become black it at once loses the black colour and its transparency, and becomes again of a creamy colour, though slightly darker, as if some coffee had been added, than at first. After evaporating this water, it can then be used like any ordinary lacquer, either alone or in mixtures, and will dry in the damp

press, during which process it again turns black. What lacquer workers have found their greatest stumbling-block is the difficulty of obtaining a clear transparent varnish. What is called transparent varnish is really black to the eye, and requires grinding and polishing after application before it presents a brilliant surface, becoming also much lighter after a little time. It would be a new era in the manufacture of lacquer ware if a method could be discovered of rendering the lacquer varnish perfectly clear and light coloured when so desired, without depriving it of its drying qualities, and also if colours could be used with it other than those hereafter mentioned.

Akanuri-urushi (middle painting varnish).—This is merely the crude lacquer. After having been exposed for some time to the sun to darken it and to get rid of all water, it is used for under-coats in making first-class lacquer ware.

Nuritate-urushi (finishing lacquer).—This is a mixture of crude lacquer and a little turpentine with *Tō-midzu* (whetstone water)—being the mixture obtained from whetstones on which blades have been sharpened. In it there is some 7 to 8 per cent. of iron, and after mixing the whole is exposed to the sun, both for the purpose of getting rid of all the water and to darken the colour. This is used for final coats of cheap lacquer, which is not polished afterwards.

Jō-hana-urushi.—This is a mixture of the above kind, with oil obtained from the *Ye* plant (*Perilla ocymoides*). This is used for still more common kinds, requiring no after polishing, and the lacquer does not present a hard surface.

Jō-chiu, called in Kioto *Chiu-hana*; *Jō-tame*, called in Kioto *Ge-hana*.

These contain more and more oil, and are used for the commonest articles, such as for varnishing clogs, clothes baskets, &c. These three last kinds give a high polish, but the lacquer does not last.

Shu-urushi (vermilion lacquer).—This is the best crude or transparent varnish mixed with *Ye* oil (*Perilla ocymoides*), sometimes as much as 50 per cent. being added. It is then exposed to the sun and water added, which is afterwards evaporated. This kind is only used for red (whence its name) and coloured lacquers, the colours being added at the time of application. It requires no after polishing.

(b.) For Lacquering with Gold.

Nashiji-urushi (pear basis lacquer), or *Suki-urushi* (transparent lacquer).—The first name is that best known in the trade, as indicating that it is required for using over gold, silver, or tin powdering. It consists of the finest crude lacquer obtained from old trees. As stated previously, the lacquer is allowed to stand till all dirt and foreign matter has sunk to the bottom, when the best is skimmed off, and after being exposed to the sun to evaporate the water in the usual manner, and carefully filtered, it is ready for use. Except when used for the highest class of gold powdering, a certain proportion of gamboge is mixed with the lacquer to give the dust a fine yellow colour.

N.B.—The above ten kinds are all bought by the lacquer workers ready prepared from the manufacturers. Any further mixtures used by them are made as required, colours added, &c.

Seshimo-urushi (branch lacquer) and *Rō-urushi* are used also in making gold lacquer.

Yoshino-urushi.—This is crude lacquer from the district of Yoshino in the Province of Yamato. It dries quickly, and closely resembles transparent varnish. It is used when giving the final coats before polishing.

Yoshino-nobe-urushi (Yoshino spreading lacquer).—Same as above, with the addition of about one-third of camphor to render the lacquer thinner and more easy to spread.

Seshime-nobe-urushi (spreading branch lacquer).—This is merely branch lacquer with the same proportion of camphor as above, when cheap work is required; more camphor is used till the proportions are reversed. This renders the mixture very soft, and a small quantity can be spread over a large surface.

Shita-maki-urushi (under coat lacquer).—A mixture of branch lacquer and *Benigara* (red oxide of iron) in equal parts by weight.

Ke-uchi-urushi (inside line lacquer).—This is the same as above, but it is allowed to stand for about six months after mixing before it is used. By this time it has got thicker, and the very finest lines can be drawn without fear of their running, and they moreover stand out better.

Shita-maki-nobe-urushi (under coat spreading lacquer).—Same composition as above, with the addition of a little camphor to make the lacquer thin. It thus goes much farther, and causes a great saving when lacquering with powdered gold-leaf (*keshi-fun*), for which it is best suited. As in the other mixtures, the more camphor is used the thinner it renders the lacquer, and the less gold is required.

Taka-maki-urushi (raised lacquer).—To make this a certain quantity of *Rō* or *Nuritate* is taken and divided into three parts. To one part is added lampblack and camphor in equal portions of bulk. These, after being well mixed, are boiled together; then the other two portions are added, and the whole stirred together, and afterwards filtered through paper. It is boiled more or less according to the season. In summer, when lacquer dries quickly, it is boiled for a longer period, while in winter, or during cold weather, when lacquer naturally takes longer to dry, the mixture is boiled for a shorter time. The reason why *Takamaki* is thus purposely rendered soft is explained by the fact that otherwise the upper surface would harden at once, while the under portion (*Takamaki* being applied thickly) being excluded from the upper air, would not be able to dry, and later the top surface would crack and show fissures, whereas the introduction of camphor renders it soft and much slower to dry, and the whole has thus time to harden equally. Camphor being volatile is gradually lost, and the composition becomes quite hard.

Rō-se-urushi (a mixture of black and branch lacquer).—This is used for the lacquer coating upon which gold, silver, or tin powder is scattered, except in such cases when the grain of the wood is to be shown, when *nashiji* lacquer is used instead.

Kuma-urushi (shading lacquer).—A mixture of *Johana* lacquer and lampblack, used for final shading in the feathers of birds or animals, or for drawing hair, &c., on flat and raised gold lacquer.

It should be noted that whenever lampblack is mentioned as a mixture it is used for the superior kinds, wood or coal soot being used for inferior articles.

Implements and Materials used in the Manufacture of Plain Lacquered Ware.

Hera.—A spatula made of *Hinoki* (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*), used for applying the under or priming coats and for mixing the lacquer.

Haké.—A flat brush made from human hair, used for laying on the lacquer.

Kokuso.—Finely chopped hemp. Mixed with lacquer it is used for covering joints.

Nuno.—Hemp cloth, used for pasting over the wood to prevent it

splitting and to strengthen corners, &c. For very fine work and small articles silk is used.

Ji-no-ko (burnt clay).—Afterwards reduced to a very fine powder. Pounded bricks are often used.

To-no-ko.—A fine kind of clay, which is procured from Mount Mari, near Kioto. This is likewise burnt, and reduced to a fine powder.

Sumi.—Charcoal made of *Hōnoki* (*Magnolia hypoleuca*), used for smoothing down the under coats; it has rather a rough grain. Also charcoal made from *Hiyukujikkō* (*Largerstramia indica*). This is very soft and of a fine grain, and is used for the final smoothing before hand polishing. This kind is called by the trade *Rō-iro-sumi* (black coloured charcoal).

To-ishi.—Whetstones of four different qualities of fineness: *Ara-to* (rough), *shiro-to* (white), *awo-to* (green), and *nagura*, the last being the finest. These are used for smoothing down the priming coats.

Tsuno-ko (horn powder).—This is made of calcined deer's-horns, reduced to a fine powder, and is used for the final polishing with the finger.

To-kusa equisetum.—A kind of scouring rush, used for smoothing the lacquer.

Kaki-no-shibu (Persimmon juice).—This is used when no ground lacquer is required, as in the Aidzu lacquer, or when the grain of the wood is shown.

Nikawa (glue).—This is used to mix with the groundwork for cheap kinds of ware, instead of lacquer.

Yuyen-sumi (lampblack).—Used for groundwork of cheap articles, mixed with Persimmon juice. For still more common ware, soot of any kind is used.

Gofun (whiting).—Made from burning old shells, such as are obtained from the ancient kitchen middens; used for mixing with glue to make the groundwork of common lacquer.

Shō-no (camphor).—Used for mixing with lacquer, to make it thinner and spread more easily.

Hōchō (knife).—Used for scraping off all inequalities of the hempen cloth after it is pasted on the article, &c.

Yoshino-gami.—A very thin kind of paper, made at Yoshino; used for filtering the lacquer before using it.

Jō-ban.—A box with a very hard lacquered lid, usually containing drawers for the various pencils, &c. The lid is used for mixing the lacquer on while working.

Tsuno-ko-ban.—Board for mixing and powdering the deer's-horn ashes before using; generally made of cherry wood or oak.

Muro.—A cave or cellar underground is used, where practicable; otherwise, an air-tight case, made of wood, with rough unplanned planks inside. These are thoroughly wetted before the lacquered article is put in to dry, which occupies a period varying from six to fifty hours, according to the time of the year or style of the lacquer. Lacquer will not dry or harden properly in the open air; it absolutely requires a damp closed atmosphere to do so, otherwise it would run and always remain sticky.

The following are mixtures made by the workman as required. None of these mixtures are forwarded, as the articles forming them are sent separately, and the proportions in which they are used are detailed in each case:—

Kokuso.—A mixture of finely-chopped hemp, with rice starch and branch lacquer sufficient to make a thick paste.

Jino-ko (No. 1).—Powdered burnt clay and branch lacquer, mixed together in the proportion one part of clay to two parts of lacquer.

Jino-ko (No. 2).—The same, mixed in the proportion of ten parts of clay to thirteen of lacquer, and a little water.

Jino-ko (No. 3).—The same, mixed in the proportion of ten parts of clay to eight parts of lacquer and two parts of thin rice starch. This mixture is known in the trade as *Han-dan-ji* (half-step basis).

Jino-ko (No. 4).—The burnt clay powder mixed with liquid glue only in such proportions as will resemble the consistency of lacquer.

Kiri-ko.—A mixture of *Jino-ko* and *Tôno-ko* in equal portions with one and a-half of branch lacquer. This becomes very hard.

Sabi.—A mixture of two parts of the burnt clay from Mount Mari to one and a-half of branch lacquer, with just sufficient water to mix the clay into a paste.

An inferior class of *Sabi* is made by putting in less lacquer—as little as eight parts of lacquer being used to twenty parts of the clay. Less lacquer cannot be used, as it would not stand polishing after having been dried.

Mugi-urushi.—Wheat lacquer; being a portion of wheaten flour mixed with branch lacquer to such consistency as may be required. It is used to paste the hempen cloth on to the wood.

Shin.—A mixture of rice flour with branch lacquer, used for the same purpose as wheat lacquer. Wheaten flour is the best, but being more difficult to blend with lacquer it is not so much used.

Ka-na-ji.—A mixture of whiting and liquid glue, used for under coats or cheap articles.

Shibu-ji.—A mixture of lampblack and Persimmon juice, used for under coats in inferior ware.

Mode of applying the lacquer in making—

(a.) *Honji* (real basis). Class I.

1. The article to be lacquered is first carefully smoothed.
2. The wood is slightly hollowed away along each joint, so as to form a circular depression.
3. The surface of the whole article is then given a coating of branch lacquer (this is called *Ki-ji-gatame*—hardening the wooden basis), and the article set to dry in the damp press, or *Muro*, for about twelve hours.
4. The hollowed portions are filled with prepared *Kokuso*, which is well rubbed in with a spatula made of the wood of the *Chamæcyparis obtusa*, and the article is inclosed in the drying press for a period of at least forty hours.
5. Over the *Kokuso* a coating of *Sabi* is applied, and set to dry for twelve hours.
6. The next process is to smooth off with a white whetstone any roughness or inequalities of the *Kokuso* and *Sabi*.
7. The article is then given a coating of wheaten lacquer, over which is stretched hempen cloth, great care being taken to spread it smoothly and leave no wrinkles or perceptible joinings, and it is then again inclosed in the drying press for about twenty-four hours.
8. After taking the article out of the press all inequalities in the cloth—which has now under the influence of the lacquer become harder than wood—are smoothed down with a knife or with a plane.
9. Next, a coating of *Sabi* is applied with the spatula, to hide the texture of the hempen cloth, and the article is again put in the press for twenty-four hours.
10. Next, a coating is given of No. 1, *Jino-ko*, applied with the spatula, after which the article is inclosed in the drying press for twenty-four hours.

11 and 12 are repetitions of the same process.

13. Next, the article is given a coating of *Kiriko*, likewise applied with the spatula, and the drying process is repeated for twenty-four hours.

14. This is a repetition of the same process, after which the article is set to dry for at least three days.

15. The surface is next ground smooth with a fine white whetstone.

16. A hardening coat of branch lacquer is given with a spatula, and set to dry for twenty-four hours.

17. A fresh coat of *Sabi* is applied with the spatula, and the article is put to dry in the press for twenty-four hours.

18. When thoroughly hardened the surface is ground smooth with a white whetstone, as before.

19. Next, a thin coating of branch lacquer is applied with the spatula, and the article is set to dry in the press for twelve hours.

20. A coating of *Naka-nuri* is then applied with a flat brush (*Haké*), and the article set to dry again for twenty-four hours.

21. On being taken out the surface is ground smooth with charcoal made from *Hônoké* (*Magnolia hypoleuca*).

22. A thin coating of branch lacquer is given with cotton wool—old wool being chosen because less likely to leave hairs behind it—and rubbed off again with soft paper, after which the article is set to dry for twelve hours.

23. A coating of *Rô* (black lacquer) is then applied, and the article is set to dry for twenty-four hours.

24. The surface is rubbed smooth with a piece of charcoal made from *Hiyakujikko* (*Lagerstramia indica*).

25 and 26 are repetitions of 23 and 24.

27. The surface is partly polished with finely-powdered *Lagerstramia* charcoal, applied with a cotton cloth.

28. A coating of *Rô* is applied very thinly with cotton wool, and this is rubbed off again with soft paper, after which the article is inclosed in the drying press for twenty-four hours.

29. The surface is now polished with an equal mixture of powdered burnt clay from Mount Mari (*To-no-ko*) and calcined deer's-horn ashes, applied with a cotton cloth and a little oil (made from *Lesasnum orientalis*), till a fine polish is obtained.

30. A coating of branch lacquer is next given, applied with cotton wool very thinly, and the article is inclosed in the drying press for twelve hours.

31. The workman dips his finger in oil and rubs a small quantity of it over the surface, which he then polishes with deer's-horn ashes, applied with a cotton cloth, till a bright surface is obtained.

32. A coating of branch lacquer is applied as in No. 30, wiped off with soft paper, and set to dry for twelve hours.

33. The oil is applied as in No. 31, and then a final polishing with deers' horn ashes, given with the finger to the surface, which now assumes the most brilliant polish of which it is capable.

For articles that are liable to get rubbed, such as scabbards, these last two processes are repeated seven or eight times, the surface getting harder at each repetition, but this is not necessary for other articles even of the best quality. In describing the above processes the *minimum* time for drying has in each case been given, but for the first twenty-five processes the longer the article is kept in the press the better. From the twenty-eighth process to the finish it is better not to greatly exceed the times mentioned.

(b.) *Kata-ji* (hard basis). Class II.—Specimens^{*} sent.

The first six processes are the same as those used in making articles, Class I.

7. For wheaten lacquer substitute rice flour lacquer (*Shin*), the method of application being identical.

8. Same as in Class I.

9. Omitted.

10, 11, and 12. For No. 1 (*Jino-ko*), substitute No. 2 (*Jino-ko*).

13 to 18. Same as in Class I.

19. The article is now rubbed over with Indian ink mixed with water such as is used for writing purposes, and applied with cotton wool.

20 to 24. Same as in Class I.

25 and 26. Omitted.

27 to 33. Same as in Class I.

(c.) *Handan-ji* (half-step basis). Class III.

The first six processes are the same as those used in making articles, Class I.

7. Instead of hempen cloth, paper is frequently substituted.

8 and 9. Omitted.

10, 11, and 12. Three coats of No. 3 (*Jino-ko*) are given to the article, which is then dried in the sun instead of being inclosed in the press. The three coats can be applied in one day.

13 to 16. Omitted.

17. A coating of inferior *Sabi*, containing less lacquer, is applied, and dried in the sun only. As soon as the water has evaporated, a second coat (17a) is given and dried in the same manner.

18. Same as in Class I.

19. Same as in Class II.

20 to 33. Same as in Class II, likewise omitting 25 and 26.

(d.) *Manzo* (after a lacquer worker of that name). Class IV.

The first seven processes are identical with those in Class III.

8 and 9. Omitted.

10, 11, and 12. Three coats of No. 4 (*Jino-ko*), containing glue instead of lacquer—first introduced by *Manzo*—are given to the article. They are dried in the sun only.

13 and 14. Omitted.

15. The surface is ground even with a rough whetstone, and afterwards further smoothed with a spatula and a small quantity of water.

16. Same as in Class I.

17 and 17a. Same as in Class III.

18. Same as in Class I.

19 *et seq.* Same as in Class II.

The first four classes being modifications of each other, a comparative numbering was adopted but the following styles differ so materially that this plan can no longer be adhered to.

(e.) *Ka-no-ji* (inferior basis). Class V.

In this class the joints of the article to be lacquered are frequently not hollowed away, a strip of paper being merely pasted over them, and even this precaution being often omitted. A coating of *Ka-no-ji* (whiting and glue) is applied with a spatula twice or thrice, and dried in the sun.

4. The article is then wiped over with a wet brush and rubbed smooth with a white whetstone, and afterwards given an extra smoothing with the spatula.

5. Sometimes a thin coating of *Nakanuri* or of branch lacquer is given to the article, but more frequently a coating of glue and lampblack, or of glue and soot mixed together, is applied.

6. A final coating of either *Jō-hana* or *Jō-chiu* finishes the process without any subsequent polishing.

(f.) *Shibu-jī* (*Persimmon*)—(juice basis). Class VI.

The joints of the article are prepared in the same manner as for Class V, but, instead of *Ka-no-jī*, four or five coats of *Shibu-jī* (Persimmon juice and lampblack) are applied with a brush; these dry very rapidly and the final coating is smoothed with *Tokusa* (*Equisetum*).

5. A final coating of either *Jō-hana* or *Jō-chiu* is given, as in Class V.

This kind of article is chiefly made in Aizu, and, indeed, goes by the name of "Aizu Ware." It has not such a good appearance as *Ka-no-jī*, for the grain of the wood is easily traceable under the lacquer, but being made without glue, it stands water much better, and is in general request for rice bowls and *zen* (small dinner trays with legs, one of which is set before each guest).

(g.) *Sabi-Sabi* (double Sabi). Class VII.

In this class of goods the joints are generally hollowed out, and a basis-hardening coat of branch lacquer given. Paper is also pasted over the work after filling in the joints with *Koku-so*. Three coats of inferior *Sabi* are then applied, and after drying for about twelve hours in the press, the article is ground smooth with a white whetstone. Next comes a coating of branch lacquer, applied with cotton wool, and then one of *Nakanuri*, which is ground smooth with *Magnolia* charcoal. Another coating of branch lacquer is followed by one of *Jō-hana* or *Jō-chiu*, and the article is finished without further polishing. Drying in the damp press is requisite between each process for this class of lacquer.

It is manufactured only in Tōkiō, though the processes for the under coats of *Wakasa* lacquer are identical. The method adopted for completing *Wakasa* lacquer is described, p. 13 of the accompanying pamphlet. Rice bowls, drinking cups, and luncheon boxes, &c., are the usual articles manufactured. In this, as in Aizu ware, the grain of the wood is traceable, and its common appearance constitutes the reason for classing it so low, but in actual excellence and durability it ought to rank fourth next to *Handan-jī*.

(h) *Kaki-awase* (mixture), or *Kuro-shunkei* (black Shunkei), from the name of its inventors. Class VIII.

In this class of goods the wood is given a basis-hardening coat of branch lacquer mixed with lampblack, over which is laid a final single application of *Jō-hana* or *Jō-chiu*. This ware is made at Tōkiō, and is used for cheap rice bowls and boxes. For the commonest kind of work a mixture of glue and lampblack or persimmon juice and lampblack is used, instead of branch lacquer as a ground coat.

(i.) *Aka-shunkei* (red Shunkei). Class IX.

This kind also derives its name from the inventor. For making articles of this class, which show the natural grain of the wood, a mixture of *Yoshino* lacquer and gamboge is rubbed on with a hard brush, after which they are inclosed for a day in the press to dry, and then a coating of *Shu-urushi* (transparent lacquer, containing a proportion of *Perilla* or *orymoides* oil) is applied. When dry it presents a polished surface, and it appears dark when at first finished, but in a few months becomes much lighter. A cheaper quality of *Shunkei* is made by using glue and gam-

boge or Persimmon juice and oxide of iron for the under coat, but though the colour has a better appearance at first, it gradually deteriorates.

The best is made in the Province of Dewa, at Akita. For the most part soft woods are used in making this ware.

(j.) *Ki-ji-ro* (colour of the grain of wood).

1. Well-seasoned wood is selected, and the article having been carefully smoothed—

2. A thin coating of *Yoshino* lacquer is applied with a brush, after which it is set to dry in the press for twelve hours.

3. A coating of best *Sabi* is then applied with the spatula, and set to dry in the press as usual.

4. This is ground completely away with a green whetstone.

5. A coating of *Nashiji* (pure transparent lacquer) is now given, and the article is inclosed in the press for twenty-four hours.

6. It is again ground with a green whetstone till no remains of the lacquer coating are apparent.

7. Then follows a second coat of transparent lacquer, which, after drying as before,

8. Is ground smooth with a piece of *Hiyakujikko* (*Largerstramia indica*) charcoal.

9. Transparent lacquer is again applied with a piece of cotton wool, and wiped off with soft paper, and the article is set to dry for twelve hours.

10. Afterwards it is given a preliminary polish with an equal mixture of *To-no-ko* and deers' horn ashes applied with a cotton cloth and a little oil.

11. Next, a coating of *Yoshino* lacquer is applied with cotton wool, wiped off with paper, and set to dry as before.

12. At this stage only deers' horn ashes, with a trifle of oil, are used for polishing. This process is repeated three times, and results in an exceedingly brilliant polish. Only hard woods are used for this kind of ware.

(k.) *Red and Coloured Lacquers.*

For making best red and other coloured lacquers the first twenty-two processes are the same as in *Honji*, Class I. Next a mixture of *Nashiji* (pure transparent lacquer) and vermilion, or the colour desired, is given to the article, which is thereupon set to dry. The remainder of the processes are identical with Class I, except that in Nos. 30 and 32 *Yoshino* lacquer is substituted for "branch lacquer," and in No. 28 transparent varnish is used instead of *Rō* (black lacquer). For extra high-class work, instead of the thin coating of lacquer (No. 28) which is wiped off again, a thick coating of transparent varnish is given, applied with a brush, and set to dry for about thirty-five hours, the remaining processes remaining unchanged.

For second-rate articles the colour is mixed with *Shu-urushi* (transparent lacquer containing oil), No. 23, and no after polishing takes place. The article presents a brilliant surface, and the colour is better and brighter than in the best kind, but the surface much less hard. Many processes are omitted for cheaper articles, as is the case in black lacquer, and less lacquer and more oil is used.

Colouring Matters used.

Shu (vermilion).—For red lacquer, used also mixed with gold dust for shading.

Sei-shitsu (green lacquer).—A mixture of *Kiō* (chrome yellow) and *Bero-ai* (Prussian blue).

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Murasaki-ko (purple powder).—A mixture of white lead and *Tô-beni* (*Magenta roseine*).

Benigara (red oxide of iron).—Sometimes used instead of vermilion.

In the district of Aidzu the light colours are produced to the greatest perfection, viz., yellow, green, and intermediate shades. In Tôkiô, though the same materials are used, the resulting colours are inferior and darker. In Aidzu no after polishing takes place with coloured lacquers. The lacquer is applied like paint. Tôkiô is, however, best for black lacquer, as well as for such high-class red, &c., as are polished afterwards. These differences are attributed to some climatic influence. The *Kioto*, so called "black lacquer," shows a reddish-brown tinge. With the exception of Tôkiô, Kioto, Osaka, Kaga, Tsugaru, Wakasa, Nagoya, Suruga, and Shidzuoka, and one or two isolated places, the method of smoothing with charcoal and afterwards polishing is not pursued. In Tsugaru and Wakasa neither flat nor raised gold lacquer are manufactured.

It should be mentioned that the plain lacquered articles are almost exclusively manufactured by one set of workmen, who supply the workers in gold lacquer with the articles ready for the application of the gold powdering, various patterns, &c.

The wholesale lacquer trade is in the hands of a few large merchants. In Tôkiô there are two houses only. These receive the crude lacquer from the producers as it arrives from the various districts, either buying it outright or making advances to the contractors, who are bound by the rules of the guild to deliver only to them. They sell it in quantities as required to the lacquer manufacturers, who prepare and refine the sap for the market, and these again retail the material to the lacquer workers. The various processes that the lacquer undergoes in the hands of these manufacturers before retailing are kept secret, only the approximate mixtures being known.

That all lacquer, even that sold as pure lacquer, undergoes some adulteration, is rendered evident from the fact that, in accordance with a strange custom peculiar to the lacquer trade, the retail manufacturers sell even the smallest quantity at the same rate at which they buy it from the wholesale merchant.

Tools and Materials used in the manufacture of Gold Lacquer.

Neji-fude.—Brushes made of rats' hair, used for tracing out the patterns, and for drawing the very fine lines, &c. The best are made of the long hairs from the backs of "ship rats," whose fur is not so likely to get rubbed.

U-no-ke-usuji-fude (fine brushes made of hares' hair).—These are a little larger than rats' hair brushes, and are used for filling in the patterns of the best articles, also for drawing outlines on common articles and ground work. There are two sizes, *Dai* and *Sho*, used for drawing "large" and "small." There are besides five sizes of *Ji nuri fude* (grounding brushes), known as—

T-cho (number one).

T-cho-han (number one and a-half).

Ni-cho (number two).

Ni-cho-han (number two and a half).

San-cho (number three).

U-no-ke-hake (a flat brush made of hares' hair, used for spreading the lacquer on large pieces of work).—There are two sizes used.

Men-sô (a stiff brush made of deer's hair, used for applying the *Sabi*, &c., in making raised gold lacquer).—It is only used for stiff mixtures.

Haké (flat brushes of human hair, for smoothing the lacquer after application, as in ordinary plain lacquer).—There are two sizes used.

Bun-mawashi (compass with fine brush attached for describing circles).

Ké-bo (brushes made from the long body hairs of a horse, used for smoothing the fine gold powder and brushing off extra particles, used also for dusting).—There are four sizes.

Fude-kake (brush rest).

Fude-arai (brush cleaner, made either of ivory or tortoise-shell).—The brushes have to be very carefully cleaned after using with *Sesamum orientale* oil, to remove every trace of lacquer.

Tsutsu (a quill, from the wing of a swan or crane, over one end of which is stretched a piece of silk, used for scattering the gold dust).—There are two sizes used.

For applying *Nashiji* or *Hirame* bamboo tubes of three different sizes are used, with silk of more open texture.

Saji (spoon), for putting the gold dust into the quill or bamboo tube.

Hirame-fude.—A pointed piece of bamboo or other wood, used for picking up and applying *Hirame*, or the gold, or shell squares.

Kujira-bera (whalebone spatula).—Used for mixing the materials, and also when transferring the tracing on the paper to the article to be painted (process described farther on). The kind used is called island whalebone, and comes from China; that obtained from Japan is practically useless, being liable to split. Two sizes are used.

Hera.—Spatulas made of *Hinoki* (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*), smaller than those used by workers in plain lacquer. There are three sizes used for applying plain lacquer, and three sizes for applying *Sabi*.

The Tooth of a fish, ordinarily the *Tai* (*Cervanus marginalis*), fastened with lacquer on to a piece of bamboo, used for polishing such crevices as are too small to admit of charcoal, &c., being used.

A piece of polished shell, used for smoothing the paper on which the pattern is drawn before tracing with lacquer.

Tsume-ban.—A palette, made either of tortoise-shell or buffalo horn, worn on the left thumb.

Tako-ban.—A small bamboo board, used when cutting the gold and silver foil into squares.

Jō-ban.—Box for holding brushes, &c. (described before).

Tsuno-ko-ban.—(Described above.)

Fun-bako.—A flat black-lacquered box for holding the gold dust.

Charcoal of three kinds.

Hono-ki (*Magnolia hypoleuca*).

Trubaki (*Camellia japonica*).

Hiyakujikkō (*Lagerstramia indica*).

Shiō (gamboge).

To-no-ko, *Jino-ko*, *Tsuno-ko*, *To-ishi*.—(Described above.)

Gold and Silver Dust used for Ornamentation.

Of these there are several kinds, viz.: *Yasuri-ko* or *fun* (file-powder), made in *Yaki-kin*; (Pure gold) *Koban-kin* (10 parts gold to $2\frac{1}{2}$ silver); *Gin* (silver).

There are twelve qualities of each, differing in fineness, and are known by the following names, beginning with the coarsest:—

(N.B.—For sake of reference, the numbers are made to correspond with those on the specimen board.)

1. *Ara-tsune*.

2. *Chiu-tsune*.

3. *Komaka-ma-t ne*.

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4. *Mijin-tsune.*
5. *Hanako.*
6. *Miin.*
7. *Komaka-me-mijin.*
8. *Aragoku.*
9. *Goku-gashira.*
10. *Goku-mijin.*
11. *Komaka-me-goku-mijin.*
12. *Usuji.*

Besides these, there is an extra large kind, used for ground-work, called *Hira-me* (flat-eye). The coarsest filings, whether of pure gold, *Koban*, or silver, are taken and rolled out flat on an iron plate. Of *Hirame* there are eight kinds each, known by the following names:—

13. *Dai-dai-ichi.*
14. *Dai-ichi.*
15. *Dai-ni.*
16. *Dai-san.*
17. *Ai-no-san.*
18. *Tsune-no-san.*
19. *Shō-san.*
20. *Saki.*

Next comes the kind called *Nashiji*, from its resemblance, when applied to the article, to the rind of a pear.

Nashiji is used for ground-work, in making which pure gold, also *Koban-kin* (10 parts gold, $2\frac{1}{10}$ silver), *Jiki-ban* (10 parts gold, $3\frac{1}{10}$ silver), *Nam-ban* (10 parts gold, $3\frac{1}{10}$ silver), and silver, of seven qualities of fineness each, are used.

21. *Dai-ichi.*
22. *Dai-ni.*
23. *Dai-san.*
24. *Ai-no-san.*
25. *Tsune-no-san.*
26. *S'ō-san.*
27. *Saki.*

Aka-fun (red powder), Nos. 28, 29, and 30, is vermilion mixed with pure gold, *Koban-kin*, and silver, for shading.

Kuro-fun (black powder), Nos. 31, 32, and 33, is camellia charcoal powder mixed with pure gold, *Koban*, and silver.

Giyōbu nashiji is the coarsest kind of *Nashiji* made; 34, pure gold, and 35, silver; but it is little used, as it requires seven or eight coats of lacquer to be applied before it is covered sufficiently to stand polishing.

Awogai-mijin (fine green shell), No. 36, is a specimen of the application of powdered shell as ground-work.

Keshi-fun.—This is the finest kind used; it is only made in pure gold and *Koban*, Nos. 37 and 38. This is made by mixing gold-leaf in liquid glue till it is reduced to an impalpable powder; water is then added, and when the gold sinks the liquor is poured away. This is repeated till all the glue has been got rid of.

Shaku-dō fun.—A mixture of seven parts pure gold and three parts of copper powder, No. 39.

Kana-gai.—Foil made of pure gold, *Koban*, and silver, Nos. 40, 41, and 42. It is made of four thicknesses in each quality, viz.: *Hon-neji*, *Chū-neji*, *Usushu*, *Kime-tsuke*, the last being the thinnest.

Besides the above, there are several mixtures, as—

Kuri-iro-fun (chestnut-coloured powder).—A mixture of one-half gold dust with powdered camellia charcoal and vermilion.

Nedzumi-iro-fun (rat-colour grey).—A mixture of half silver and powdered camellia charcoal, and a little vermilion.

In each case it is evident that several distinct shades can be obtained according as more or less colour is added to the gold and silver dust. It is a remarkable fact that (as I am informed) no vegetable colours can be used with lacquer. They are all eaten up, as it were, by the lacquer and disappear, which accounts for the very few variations seen in the colours of lacquer. The workmen have never been able to produce white, purple, or any of the more delicate shades.

Of late years, since cheap work has been introduced, the custom of using tin dust has been adopted for making common *Nashiji*. It is manufactured of the same sizes as in gold and silver and when plenty of gamboge is mixed with the lacquer to cover it an inexperienced person might easily mistake it for gold when the ware is new, but it soon deteriorates. Burnt tin dust is also sometimes used for under coats in making cheap raised lacquer.

Mode of making Gold Lacquer.

(a.) *Togi-dashi* (bringing out by polishing).—The article having been subjected to the first twenty-two processes, as described in making *Houji* (Class I) is then treated as follows:—

The picture to be transferred to the article is drawn on thin paper, to which a coating of size made of glue and alum has been applied—that known as *Mino-gami* is best. The reverse is rubbed smooth with a polished shell or pebble, and the outline very lightly traced in lacquer, previously roasted over live charcoal to prevent its drying, with a fine brush made of rats' hair. The paper is then laid, with the lacquer side downwards on the article to be decorated, and is gently rubbed with a whalebone spatula wherever there is any tracing, and on removing the paper the impress may very faintly be perceived. To bring it out plainly, it is rubbed over very lightly with a piece of cotton wool, charged with powdered white whetstone or tin, which adheres to the lacquer. Japanese paper being peculiarly tough, upwards of twenty impressions can be taken off from one tracing, and when that is no longer possible, from the lacquer having become used up, it only requires a fresh tracing over the same paper to reproduce the design *ad infinitum*. This tracing does not dry owing to the lacquer used for the purpose having been partially roasted, as previously mentioned, and can be wiped off at any time.

The next process is to trace out the veining of the leaves, or such lines to which in the finished picture it is desired to give the most prominence, and these lines are powdered over with gold dust through a quill. The qualities called *Mijin*, *Koma-kame-mijin*, and *Aragiku*, are generally used; either finer or coarser qualities cannot be used. The article is then set to dry for twenty-four hours in the damp press. The outline is now drawn carefully with a rat's hair brush over the original tracing line with a mixture of black and branch lacquer, called *Rō-sé*. The whole is then filled in with *Rō-sé* applied with a hare's hair grounding brush. Gold dust of a slightly coarser quality than *Mijin* is scattered over the lacquered portion, and the article is set to dry for twenty-four hours. Another thin coating of *Rō-sé* lacquer is again given to the gold-powdered portions, and the article set to dry for twelve hours. Next, a coat of *Rō* (black lacquer) is applied over the whole surface of the article, which is set to dry for at least three days. It is then roughly ground down with *Magnolia* charcoal, the surface dust being constantly wiped off with a damp cloth till the pattern begins to appear faintly. Another coating of *Rō* lacquer is

then given and the article set to dry for thirty-six hours. It is again ground down with *Magnolia* charcoal as before, this time till the pattern comes well out. The ensuing processes are the same from 28 to 33 inclusive, as in black lacquer (*Honji*, Class I).

In making *Togi-dashi* on hard woods, transparent lacquer is used instead of *Rô*.

(b.) *Hira-makiye* (flat Gold Lacquer).

The article having been thoroughly finished, either in black or red, &c., as already described under the head of *Honji*, Class I, and the following kinds, a tracing is applied to the surface as in *Togi-dashi*, the outline is carefully painted over with a fine brush of rat's hair, and then filled in with a hare's hair brush, using *Shitamaki* lacquer (branch lacquer and red oxide of iron). Over this surface gold dust, of the quality called *Aragoku* being generally used, is scattered with a brush of horse's hair (*Kebo*) till the lacquer will not absorb any more. The article is then set to dry for twenty-four hours. A thin coating is next applied over the gold, of transparent lacquer or *Yoshino* lacquer, and set to dry for twenty-four hours at least. It is then most carefully smoothed with camellia charcoal, and finally polished off with *Tono-ko* and a little oil on the point of the finger, till the ornamented portion attains a fine polish. The veining of leaves and the painting of stamens, &c., of flowers, or such other fine work, is now done with a fine rat's hair brush charged with *Ke-uchi* lacquer over which fine gold dust (*Goku-mijin*) is scattered from a brush of horse's hair (*Kebo*) as before, and the article set to dry for twelve hours. Some *Yoshino* lacquer is then applied to a piece of cotton wool, and rubbed over the whole surface of the box or other article, and wiped off again with soft paper. It is set to dry for twelve hours, after which it is polished off with deer's horn ashes and a trifle of oil. When very high-class work is desired, *Yoshino* lacquer, to which a little water has been added, is applied, and polished off a second time, and a very brilliant surface is attained.

More ordinary "flat gold lacquer" differs in the manufacture as follows: The tracing is accomplished in the same manner, but *Shitamaki-nobe* lacquer (branch lacquer, red oxide of iron, and camphor) is used for filling in the pattern with a hare's hair brush. The article is then set to dry in the press for ten to twenty minutes, during which time the lacquer has begun to harden, and less gold will adhere. Then gold dust (*Goku-mijin*) is applied with cotton wool thinly, and the article is set to dry for twenty-four hours. The whole surface is then smeared over with *Yoshino-nobe* lacquer (*Yoshino* lacquer and camphor) on a piece of cotton wool, and wiped off again with soft paper. The reason is that it is less trouble to smear over the whole surface thinly, and it is, moreover, not necessary to give a thick coat of lacquer to the decorated part, as the gold dust has been very thinly applied. It is set to dry for twelve hours and ground smooth with camellia charcoal and polished with powdered whetstone and oil on the point of the finger. The fine lines are then drawn with a rat's hair brush charged with *Shitamaki* lacquer, and sprinkled with gold dust (*Goku-mijin*) from a brush (*Kebo*), and the article set to dry for twelve hours. The whole is again smeared with *Yoshino-nobe* lacquer and carefully wiped off again with paper, and set to dry for twelve hours. The article is then polished with powdered whetstone and oil on the point of the finger, and a second application of *Yoshino-nobe* lacquer with a little water, wiped off with soft paper, set to dry for twelve hours, and finally polished off with deers' horn ashes and oil on the finger, finishes the operation.

Should it be required to make any dark spots or lines, such as birds'

eyes, or to draw human hair, &c., or other shading, this is done last of all with *Kuma*, "bear" lacquer, *Jō-hana*, and lampblack.

More Common Kind of Flat Gold Lacquer Painting.

Instead of tracing the design in roasted lacquer, it is done with a mixture of powdered *Tono-ko* and water, and the impression is transferred to the articles with the whalebone spatula as before. The reason for only using *Tono-ko* instead of lacquer is that the ground-work being inferior it cannot be ground or smoothed afterwards, and the edges of the pattern would not be clean, nor stand out clear, should any lacquer get smeared outside the tracing line. The outline is then filled in with *Shitamaki-nobe* lacquer with a coarse hare's hair brush, and the article is set to dry for twenty minutes, or till a thin skin has formed on the lacquer, and then the half-dry surface is wiped over with cotton wool charged with *Keshi-fun*, the finest gold powder, and set to dry for five or six hours. The whole surface is then smeared with *Yoshino-nobe* lacquer, which is carefully wiped off again with soft paper, and the article set to dry for half-a-day. The surface is then rubbed over gently with deers' horn ashes and soft paper to give it a polish, and to get rid of any of the last coat of *Yoshino-nobe* lacquer.

The fine lines are now drawn with a fine hare's hair brush charged with *Shitamaki-nobe* lacquer, and the article set to dry for twenty minutes or so; then *Keshi-fun* is applied with cotton wool, and again set to dry for five or six hours. No further process takes place.

(c.) *Taka-makiye* (raised Gold Lacquer).

The ground-work may be either black or coloured lacquer, *Nashiji* (pear basis of gold dust), or the plain wood. The outlines of the pattern are transferred to the surface of the article in the same manner as in *Togi-dashi*, or "flat lacquer." The outline is then painted over with *Shitamaki* lacquer, and this is covered with powdered camellia charcoal. If the outside is to be higher than the inside, a broad margin is painted and covered with the charcoal powder, leaving the centre untouched, and *vice versa*; if the centre is to be higher a faint line only is painted outside, and the inside is given a thickish coating, which is sprinkled with the charcoal dust, and the article set to dry for twelve hours. When taken out of the press it is well dusted to get rid of any loose charcoal powder, and is also washed, using a brush made of human hair (*Hake*) to clean out all crevices and bring out the lines, &c. Some *Yoshino-nobe*, or "branch lacquer," with camphor, is now rubbed on with a piece of cotton wool and carefully wiped off with soft paper, and the article set to dry for twelve hours. The raised parts are next carefully ground smooth with a piece of *Magnolia* charcoal, and a second coat of *Yoshino-nobe*, or of "branch lacquer," is applied as before and dried.

[If a well-raised pattern is required, one, two, or even three coats of *Sabi* ("branch lacquer" and *Tono-ko*) are applied, the outside edges being painted with a brush of deer's hair (*Menso*), and the inside lacquer applied with a small *Sabi* spatula, the article being set to dry between each application for twelve hours. For coarser work it is then ground smooth with a white whetstone, and for finer work with a yellow whetstone. Over this some "branch lacquer," mixed with camphor, is rubbed with cotton wool and wiped off with soft paper, and the article set to dry for twelve hours.]

If the pattern is not to be very high the operations described between the brackets are omitted. A coating of *Takamaki* lacquer is now given, the outside edges being carefully drawn with a rat's hair brush, and the inside of the pattern filled in with a hare's hair brush, and the article set

to dry for thirty-six to forty-eight hours. When taken out of the press the surface is ground smooth with *Magnolia* charcoal, and then partly polished with powdered camellia charcoal on a cotton cloth. A little oil is now rubbed on, and a further polishing takes place with powdered "whetstone" on a cloth. Next, "branch lacquer" is rubbed over the raised parts with cotton wool and wiped off with soft paper, and the article set to dry for twelve hours. It is next polished with deers' horn ashes and a little "rape seed," or "sesamum" oil applied on the point of the finger. Up to this point the formation of the pattern, whether mountains, waves, trees, men, birds, or animals, has been gradually completed.

If small squares of gold foil (known as *Kiri kane*), or of coloured shell, are used in producing the pattern, they are now applied one by one on the point of a bamboo stick (*Hirame fude*), the spot where they are to be affixed having been smeared with a little *Rō-sé* lacquer to make them adhere. When all that is required has been affixed, a piece of soft bibulous paper is spread over the freshly done parts and pressed very carefully with the finger. This is to get rid of as much of the *Rō-sé* lacquer as is not covered by the gold squares as possible; the article is set to dry for twelve hours, and then the portion where the gold has been applied is gently polished with a little camellia charcoal on the point of the finger, to get rid of the remainder of the *Rō-sé* lacquer. Shell patterns, and the coarser kinds of gold dust that may be required, are applied in the same manner. The finer kinds of gold dust are applied next, over a coat of *Shitamaki* lacquer, and the article set to dry for twelve hours. The remaining processes of polishing, drying, &c., are the same as in first-class "flat gold" lacquer.

For making raised lacquer patterns on plain wood the whole surface is covered with tin-foil, stuck on with rice paste, to keep the wood quite clean, and then the place only where the pattern is to come is cut out. In making all high-class lacquer the edges of every article are pasted over with tin-foil to prevent their being rubbed or injured by the workman, and the same is done over each portion as it is finished.

The above is the ordinary method of making best raised lacquer, but from a glance at the specimens which accompany this paper it will be seen immediately that there are such innumerable modifications of one process or another, according to the object to be produced, that it is manifestly impossible to do more than give the above cursory sketch. Nearly every piece of good lacquer made exhibits a specimen of each kind, viz., *Nashiji*, *Togi-dashi*, *Hira-makiye*, or *Taka-makiye*.

In making raised lacquer on inferior articles the methods do not vary much from the good kinds; the work is merely less carefully executed. The saving is in the quantity and quality of the gold dust used, and the absence of minute after work, or in the use of silver and tin instead of gold dust. In the very cheapest kinds burnt tin dust is used instead of charcoal over the first coat of *Shitamaki*. This is burnished bright, and over it a thin coating of lacquer and gold dust is applied. At first it looks well, but loses its colour in a year or two. By using tin powder the same height is attained in one coat that would necessitate at least three coats of lacquer and charcoal dust. This kind of work is, however, only used for cheap articles for foreign export, and has been quite lately introduced.

(d.) *Lacquering on Metal.*

For lacquering on iron or copper, brass or silver, the metal is smoothed and polished, and then given a coating of "crude lacquer," or "black lacquer;" the article is put over a charcoal fire, and the lacquer is burnt on to the metal till all smoke ceases to escape. The fire must not be too fierce, and the metal must not be allowed to get red hot, or the lacquer

turns to ashes. After the lacquer has burnt quite hard the surface is rubbed smooth with *Largerstramia* charcoal; these operations are repeated three or four times, till a good foundation of lacquer has been obtained. Then the same operations exactly are repeated as in making best "black lacquer," *Togi-dashi*, "flat gold lacquer," or "raised gold lacquer," only that the lacquer is burnt dry over the fire instead of being dried in the press. The lacquer is thus rendered quite hard and very durable. After the first two or three coats have been burnt on, the subsequent drying processes can be carried on in the damp press, should it be so desired.

In winter, or when any article is required in a hurry, the workmen sometimes put a charcoal fire in the press, over which a pan of hot water is placed. The steam which is thus generated helps to dry the lacquer in an hour or two, which would take twenty-four hours to harden ordinarily, but the lacquer thus dealt with loses its strength, and is never very hard. "Black lacquer" turns a rusty brown, the colouring virtue of the iron being apparently lost, and therefore this plan is never adopted for good work, and in second-rate work only for under coats.

Nashiji (pear basis).—This style of ornamentation, occupying an intermediate position between plain and ornamental lacquer, is therefore treated of last. Till the opening of Japan to foreign trade it was in the hands of workers in gold lacquer, but now for the most part all *Nashiji* on articles intended for exportation is applied by the workers in plain lacquer. In making best *Nashiji*, as in *Togi-dashi*, the first twenty-two processes are identical with *Honji*, Class I. A coating of *Rō-sé* is applied, and the gold dust is sprinkled over this surface through one or other of the bamboo tubes, according to the fineness required. The article is set to dry in the press for forty-eight hours, and is then given a coating of pure transparent varnish. This is set to dry for three or four days, when it is roughly ground with *Magnolia* charcoal, and a second coat of transparent lacquer given. The article is set to dry for forty-eight hours, and then ground with *Magnolia* charcoal till a perfectly smooth surface is obtained. Transparent lacquer is then applied with a piece of cotton wool, and wiped off again with soft paper, and the article set to dry for twenty-four hours. It is then polished with a mixture of *Tono-ko* and camellia charcoal powder and a little oil. Next, a coating of *Yoshino* lacquer is given, and wiped off with paper; the article is set to dry for twelve hours, and then it is polished with deer's-horn ashes and oil. This is repeated three times to finish the article.

The same processes are gone through when using silver instead of gold dust.

For cheap qualities tin dust is used, and the powder is scattered on glue immediately above a coating of *Kanoji* (whiting and glue). When the article is dry it is burnished with *To-kusa* (*Equisetum*), and as soon as it presents a bright surface a coating of pure transparent lacquer, with gamboge, is given to it. It is set to dry for a day in the press, and then ground with *Magnolia* charcoal. Over this a coating of *Shu-urushi* (transparent varnish containing oil) is applied, and another drying for twenty-four hours completes the process.

(Signed)

JOHN J. QUIN.

Tokio, January 13, 1882.

JAPAN.

CATALOGUE OF SPECIMENS FORWARDED.

[The specimens alluded to in the Report are exhibited in No. 1 Museum, in the Royal Gardens at Kew.]

1. Kawa-muki. Bark-parer.
2. Yeda-gama. Branch sickle.
3. Kaki-gama. Scraping sickle.
4. Yeguri. Gouge.
5. Natsu-bera. Summer spatula.
6. Hôchô. Knife.
7. Seshime-bera. Seshime spatula.
8. Gô. Bamboo or wooden pot to hold the lacquer.
9. Gô-guri. Pot gouge.
10. Te-bukuro. Glove.
11. Specimens of lacquer tree (small).
12. " " (larger size).
- 12 A. Small stems.
13. Hinoki. (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*.)
14. Kiri. (*Paulownia Imperialis*.)
- 14 A. Kiri (old).
15. Hônoki. (*Magnolia hypoleuca*.)
16. Sawara. (*Chamaecyparis pisifera*.)
17. Hime-ko-matsu.
18. Tsuga. (*Abies tsuga*.)
19. Hiba. (*Thujopsis dolabrata*.)
20. Akamatsu. (*Pinus densiflora*.)
21. Sugi. (*Cryptomeria japonica*.)
22. Keyaki. (*Planera japonica*.)
23. Shôji.
24. Sakura. (*Prunus pseudo cerasus*.)
25. Katsura. (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*.)
26. Tchô Ginko biloba.
27. Igo.
28. Buna.
29. Shitan.
30. Tagayasan.
31. Karin.
32. Kuwa.
33. Keyaki. (*Planera japonica*.)
34. Ki-urushi (nami). Ordinary crude lacquer.
- 34 A. Ki-urushi (Jô-koshi) best filtered lacquer.
35. Seshime-urushi. Pure branch lacquer.
- 35 A. Seshime. Lacquer as sold.
36. Rô-urushi. Black lacquer.
37. Haguro. Tooth-dye. Broken, all contents gone.
38. Nakanuri-urushi. Middle painting lacquer.
39. Nuritate-urushi. Finishing lacquer.
40. Jô-hana-urushi.
41. Jô-chiu-urushi.
42. Jo-tame-urushi.
43. Shu-urushi. Vermilion lacquer.
44. Nashiji-urushi. Pear-basis lacquer.
45. Yoshino-urushi.
46. Yoshino-nobe-urushi. Yoshino spreading lacquer.
47. Seshime-urushi. Seshime spreading lacquer.
48. Shitamaki-urushi. Under-coat lacquer.
49. Ke-uchi-urushi. Inside line lacquer.
50. Shitamaki-nobe-urushi. Under-coat spreading lacquer.
51. Takamaki-urushi. Raised lacquer.
52. Rô-sé-urushi. Mixture of black and branch lacquer.
53. Kenna. Black liquid.
54. Hera. Spatula made of Hinoki. (3 specimens.)
55. Hake. Flat brush made from human-hair. (4 specimens.)
56. Kokuso. Finely-chopped hemp.

57. Nuno. Hempen cloth.
 58. Silk. Used for fine work.
 59. Ji-no-ko. Burnt clay.
 60. Tono-ko. Burnt clay from Mount Mari.
 61. Hō-nō-ki-sumi. *Magnolia hypoleuca* charcoal.
 62. Hiyakujikkō-sumi. *Lagerstramia indica* charcoal.
 63. Ara-to-ishi. Rough whetstone.
 64. Shiro-to-ishi. White whetstone.
 65. Awo-to-ishi. Green whetstone.
 66. Nagura-to-ishi. From quarry at Nagura.
 - (7 Tsuno-ko. Deers' horn ashes.
 68. To-kusa. *Equisetum*.
 69. Kaki-no-shibu. Persimmon juice.
 70. Nīkawa. Glue.
 71. Yuyen-sumi. Lampblack.
 72. Go-fun. Whiting.
 73. Shō-no. Camphor.
 74. Hōchō. Knife.
 75. Yoshino. Paper.
 76. Jo-ban. A box for pens, &c.
 77. Tsuno-koban. Board for mixing ashes, &c.
 78. Muro. Drying-press.
 79. (a) Honji. Class I. Real basis. (Number of specimens, 34; 32 separate pieces.)
 80. (b.) Kataji. Class II. Hard basis. (Number of specimens, 6.)
 81. (c.) Handanji. Class III. Half-step basis. (Number of specimens, 8.)
 82. (d.) Manzo. Class IV. (Number of specimens, 8.)
 83. (e.) Ka-no-ji. Class V. Inferior basis. (Number of specimens, 6.)
 84. (f.) Shibu-ji. Class VI. Persimmon-juice basis. (Number of specimens, 5.)
 85. (g.) Sabi-sabi. Class VIII. Double Sabi. (Number of specimens, 10.)
 86. (h.) Kaki-awase. Class VIII. Mixture or Kuro-Shunkei (black Shunkei). (Number of specimens, 2.)
 87. (i.) Aka-Shunkei. Class IX. Red Shunkei. (Number of specimens, 2.)
 88. (j.) Kijiro. Colour of the grain of wood. (Number of specimens, 14.)
 89. (k.) Red and coloured lacquers—
 1. Coating of red lacquer ground down with magnolia charcoal.
 2. Pattern applied in black lacquer and gold.
 3. Coating of transparent lacquer applied.
 4. Finally polished.

5. Best.	5 A. Second best.
6. "	6 A. "
7. "	7 A. "
8. "	8 A. "
9. "	9 A. "

The same colours being used.
 90. Shu. Vermillion.
 91. Seishitsu. Green.
 92. Kiō. Chrome yellow.
 93. Bero-ai. Prussian blue.
 94. Murasaki-ko. Purple powder.
 95. White lead.
 96. Tō-beni. Magenta roseine.
 97. Benigara. Red oxide of iron.
-
98. Neji-fude. Brushes of rat's-hair. (Number of specimens, 2.)
 99. U-no-ke-usuji-fude. Fine brushes made of hare's-hair. (2 specimens sent of each size.)
 100. Ji-nuri-fude. Grounding brushes of hare's-hair. Five sizes. (2 specimens sent of each size.)
 101. U-no-ke-hake. Flat brush of hare's-hair. (2 specimens sent.)
 102. Mensō. Stiff brush of deers' hair. (2 specimens sent.)
 103. Haké. Flat brushes of human hair. (2 specimens sent.)
 104. Bun-mawashi. Compass, with brush attached.
 105. Kébō. Brushes made of horse-hair. (6 specimens sent.)
 106. Fude-kake. Brush-rest.
 107. Fude-arai. Brush-cleaner.

108. Goma-abura. *Sesamum orientalis* oil.
109. Fude-ire. Brush-case.
- 110 { Tiutsu. Quills (three sizes).
" Bamboo-tubes (three sizes).
111. Saji. Spoon.
112. Hirame-fude. Used in affixing hirame, &c. (2 specimens sent.)
113. Kujira-bera. Whalebone spatula. (2 specimens sent.)
114. Hera. Spatulas of Hinoki. Used for lacquer and sabi. (3 specimens of each sent.)
115. The tooth of a fish. Used for polishing.
116. A piece of polished shell. Used for smoothing paper.
117. Tsune-bau. Palette. (2 specimens sent.)
118. Take-ban. Small bamboo board.
119. Fun-bako. Flat lacquered box, for holding gold-dust.
120. Tsubaki-sumi. Camellia charcoal.
- 120 A. Camellia charcoal-powder.
121. Shiō. Gomboge.
122. Ye-abura. *Perilla ocymoides* oil.
123. Specimen board, containing 110 samples of yasuri-ko, hirame, nashiji and sundry colours, &c.
124. Tin-nashiji.
125. Tin-dust.
- 125 A. Burnt tin-dust.
126. Specimen of Togidashi. Branch of a lacquer tree—
 - 1 and 2. Showing outline and veining.
 3. Powdering of gold-dust.
 4. Application of second coating of rō-sé.
 5. Coating of rō.
 6. Same, ground roughly with magnolia charcoal.
 7. Second coating of Rō to the finish.
127. Specimen of Togi-dashi. Water and clouds—
 - 1 to 3. Outline, veining and powdering with yasuri-ko and hirame.
 4. Application second coating of rō-sé.
 5. Coating of Rō
 6. Same, ground roughly with magnolia charcoal.
128. Specimen of Togi-dashi on 'agaya-san. Branch of rose—
 1. Outline of pattern.
 2. Veining.
 3. Powdering of gold-dust.
 4. Coating of Rō-sé.
 5. Coating of transparent lacquer.
 6. Ground down with magnolia charcoal.
 7. Second coating of transparent lacquer.
 8. Again ground with magnolian charcoal.
 9. Thin coating of transparent lacquer applied with cotton wool.
 10. Polished with to-no-ko and deer's-horn.
 11. Thin coating of yoshino lacquer.
 12. Polished with deer's-horn ashes.
- 13 and 14. Repetition of 11 and 12.
129. Specimen of Hiramakiye. Flat lacquer on Shitan (bamboo)—
 1. Outline of pattern.
 2. Pattern filled in with Shitimaki lacquer.
 3. Powdered with gold.
 4. Coating of Yoshino lacquer.
 5. Ground with camellia charcoal.
 6. Polished with whetstone-powder and oil.
 7. Veining drawn in Ke-uchi lacquer.
 8. Same, powdered with gold.
 9. Thin coating of Yoshino lacquer.
 10. Polished with powdered-whetstone and oil.
 11. Thin coating of Yoshino-nobe lacquer and water.
 12. Polished with whetstone-powder and oil.
130. Specimen of Takamakiye. Raised gold lacquer over clouded Togidashi—
 1. Corresponding with No. 6 of Togidashi. (Specimen Nos. 126 and 127.)
 2. Second coating of Rō.
 3. Ground down with magnolia charcoal.
 4. Polished with Tonoko and camellia charcoal.
 5. Polished with deer's-horn ashes, after a coating of Yoshino lacquer.

REPORT ON LACQUER INDUSTRY.

6. Camellia charcoal powder dusted over a coating of Shitamaki lacquer.
7. Coating of Takamaki lacquer over two applications of Yoshino-nobe lacquer.
8. Same, ground with magnolia charcoal, and partly polished with camellia charcoal.
9. Polished with Tonoko and oil.
10. Application of Keshi-fun over Shitamaki lacquer.
11. Application of Komaka-me-mijin over Shitamaki lacquer.
12. Coating of Yoshino lacquer.
13. Polished with powdered-whetstone and oil.
14. Final polishings. Nos. 12 and 13 repeated three times.
- 130 A. Paper pattern used for producing above, with lacquer tracing on back, together with the other paper patterns used—
 1. Specimen of prepared paper used for tracing patterns.
 2. Specimen of soft paper used for rubbing-off the thin coats of lacquer.
131. Specimen of Takamakiye on plain black ground. Branch of lacquer tree—
 1. First tracing.
 2. Coating of Shitamaki lacquer and charcoal-powder; two coats of Yoshino-nobe lacquer. Afterwards ground smooth with magnolia charcoal.
 3. Coating of Takamaki lacquer.
 4. Ground with magnolia charcoal, and polished with Tonoko and oil.
 5. Gold-dust sprinkled over a coating of Shitamaki lacquer.
 6. A coating of Yoshino-nobe lacquer.
 7. Ground with camellia charcoal and polished with powdered-whetstone and oil.
 8. Veining, and subsequent polishing three times.
132. Specimen of raised lacquer, with and without subsequent gilding. Branch of fir-tree and creeper—

(The marking on the background is meant to imitate the surface of metal attacked by verdigris.)

 1. Outline drawn and sprinkled with charcoal-dust.
 2. Spikes of fir-tree, finished in Hira-makiye.
 3. Three applications of Shitamaki lacquer and charcoal-powder, afterwards polished.
 4. Coating of Takimaki lacquer, polished with camellia charcoal-powder and Tonoko.
 5. Leaves powdered with gold, over a coating of Shitamaki lacquer.
 6. Coating of Yoshino-nobe lacquer, afterwards ground with camellia charcoal, and polished with powdered whetstone and oil.
 7. Finished branch of tree made of several coats of Sabi lacquer.
 8. One finished leaf, showing application of Kiri-kane; and one finished leaf showing method of shading with vermilion.
133. Specimen of raised gold lacquer on plain wood (branch and blossom of cherry). The very bright portions are in thin gold-foil (Kimetsuke).
134. Finished specimens of Giyōbu-nashiji, of mixed gold and shell work, and of pattern for a border.
135. Specimen of lacquering on metal.
136. Tray showing process of applying Nashiji—
 1. Pure gold Nashiji.
 2. Koban gold Nashiji.
 3. Silver Nashiji. Back of tray silver Nashiji.
 4. Tin Nashiji.
 5. Coating of transparent lacquer.
 6. Ground roughly with magnolia charcoal.
 7. Second coating of transparent lacquer.
 8. Ground smooth with magnolia charcoal.
 9. Transparent lacquer applied with cotton-wool.
 10. Polished with powdered charcoal and tonoko.
 11. Thin coating of Yoshino lacquer.
 12. Polished with deer's-horn ashes and oil.
 13. Second thin coating of Yoshino lacquer.
 14. Polished with deer's-horn ashes and oil.
- 136 A. Specimen of common tin Nashiji.
137. Finished specimen of Togidashi. Peacock's feather.
138. Box showing various modes of applying Kiri-kane, Awo-gai, Hirame, and shading colours to produce patterns (unfinished).

139. Similar kind of box (finished).
140. Specimen of inlaying work: in coral, various shells, deer's-horn, &c.—
 1. Hirame applied over Rō-sé.
 2. Shell-work, &c., having been applied, three coats of Sabi have been given, and then ground smooth.
 3. Coating of Rō lacquer.
 4. Same, ground down with magnolia charcoal.
 5. Second coating of Rō lacquer, same ground away with magnolia charcoal and polished with Tonoko and oil.
 6. A coating of branch lacquer, afterwards polished off with deer's-horn ashes and oil.
 7. Hirame. Polished after lacquering.
 8. The whole of the inlaid work polished and the veining of the leaves completed; bottom of tray in silver Nashiji.
141. Stand for wine cup in Togidashi. Kioto work. About fifty years old.
142. Inrō. Medicine-box in Takamakiye, with dead gold ground, showing application of Kuma (shading lacquer). Tōkiō work. About twenty-five years old.
143. Inrō. Medicine-box, showing application of hirame. Tōkiō work. Estimated at over one hundred years old.
144. Inrō. Medicine-box, showing method of shading, &c. Tōkiō work. About eighty to one hundred years old.
145. Tray. Inlaid shell-work. Kioto work. Estimated age, one hundred and twenty years.
146. Tray. Negoro ware. *Vide Pamphlet*, pp. 10–11. Over fifty years old.
147. Medicine-box of Tsuisbu. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 16. Estimated over fifty years old.
148. Box of Tsui-koku. Carved black lacquer. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 16. Estimated age, over one hundred years.
149. Two boxes of the style called "Guri." *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 16. Estimated age, over fifty years.
150. Writing-box, style called "Cho-moku." *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 9. Estimated age, seventy to eighty years.
151. Wine-cup. Kioto work. Red and yellow lacquer. Gilt inside. Estimated age, over fifty years.
152. Soup or rice-bowl. Nambu-ware. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 10. Estimated age, over seventy years.
153. Round tray. Loo-choo red lacquer.
154. Paper tray lacquered over. Tōkiō work
155. Specimen boards, showing design on red lacquer, in gold, and rō-sé, through transparent lacquer. Tōkiō work.
156. Food-box of Wakasa lacquer. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 13.
157. Cabinet of Tsugaru-nishiki lacquer.
158. Tray of ordinary Tsugaru lacquer.
159. Box of Tsugaru lacquer over paper. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 13.
160. Tray of Akita-noshiro lacquer. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 12.
161. Round tray. Chinkin-bori. Made at Kaga. Also, rice-bowl. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 17.
162. Square trays. Made at Wajima. *Vide Pamphlet*, pp. 14 and 17.
163. Sweetmeat bowl. Made at Wajima. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 14.
164. Small round trays of Kaga lacquer.
165. Toothbrush-box of Suruga lacquer, showing grain of the wood. *Vide Pamphlet*, p. 16.
166. (a.) Food-box. Black Aizu-ware.
 (b.) Rice-bowl. Yellow ditto.
 (c.) " Green ditto.
 (d.) Tray. Red and green ditto.
 (e.) " Yellow clouded ditto.
 (f.) Rice-bowl. Reddish brown ditto.
167. 1 square and 1 round tray of new Nikkō-ware.
168. Food-box. Red Shunkei.
169. Square tray. Ditto.
170. Rice-box. Commonest red Shunkei. Made in Province of Shinano.

SIAM. No. 1 (1882).

COMMERCIAL REPORT

BY

HER MAJESTY'S AGENT AND CONSUL-
GENERAL

IN

S I A M

FOR THE YEAR

1881.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty
1882.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

1882.

***Commercial Report by Her Majesty's Agent and
Consul-General in Siam for the Year 1881.***

THE Trade Returns for the year 1881 are substantially identical with those of the preceding year; nor have the general conditions either of agriculture, industry, or commerce shown any tendency to advance or improvement, nor has any work of public utility been effected throughout the year.

The only distinguishing circumstance of the twelvemonth was a violent epidemic of cholera during the latter part of the summer. It commenced up-country, but travelling southward, left no part of the kingdom unvisited; while at Bangkok itself the deaths, European or native, averaged for a considerable period a hundred a day. On the setting in of the autumn rains the violence of the epidemic subsided, but the disease has remained endemic, though in a sporadic form, ever since.

(Signed) W. GIFFORD PALGRAVE.

(No. 2).—RETURN of British and Foreign Shipping, Sailing and Steam, at the Port of Bangkok during the Year 1881.

ENTERED.					CLEARED.								
Nationality of Vessels.	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Invoice Value of Cargoes.	Total.		Nationality of Vessels.	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Invoice Value of Cargoes.
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.		Vessels.	Tons.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
British ..	214	786,784	58	49,916	£ 5,248,508	272	836,700	British ..	260	130,838	..	..	£ 6,120,256
German ..	35	18,726	22	8,563	266,331	57	27,239	German ..	58	28,211	..	..	1,129,425
French ..	..	..	5	1,659	..	5	1,659	French ..	5	1,576	..	..	58,900
Dutch ..	..	..	8	4,264	..	8	4,264	Dutch ..	12	7,054	..	..	225,225
United States ..	1	434	..	..	5,986	1	434	United States ..	2	862	..	..	23,500
Danish ..	4	2,425	..	..	18,169	4	2,425	Danish ..	4	2,425	..	..	76,898
Russian ..	2	880	..	..	22,571	2	880	Russian ..	2	922	..	..	29,385
Sarawak ..	7	2,646	..	..	34,220	7	2,646	Sarawak ..	7	2,646	..	..	109,043
Swedish ..	2	512	..	..	14,973	2	512	Swedish ..	2	512	..	..	19,745
Siamese ..	105	52,021	11	3,989	451,549	116	56,010	Siamese ..	122	47,657	..	..	1,812,138
Chinese ..	110	..	..	..	171,033	110	..	Chinese ..	33	4,084	..	..	126,125
Total ..	480	864,428	104	68,391	6,233,640	584	932,819	Total ..	507	226,787	..	..	9,727,640

(No. 3).—RETURN of Foreign Shipping at Bangkok, engaged in the Direct and Indirect Trade during the Year 1881.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.			
Nationality of Vessels.		Direct Trade.		Indirect Trade.		Total.	
		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Siamese	..	116	56,010	..	..	112	47,657
Danish	..	..	2,425	4	2,425	4	2,425
Dutch	..	5	3,244	7	3,810	12	7,054
French	..	..	1,659	5	1,659	5	1,576
German	..	..	27,289	57	27,289	58	28,211
United States	..	..	434	1	434	2	868
Sweden and Norway	..	..	512	2	512	2	512
Sarawak	..	..	2,646	7	2,646	7	2,646
Total	..	121	59,254	79	35,985	202	90,949

(No. 4.)—RETURN of Imports as declared at the Customs, from January 1 to December 31, 1881.

Furnished by H. S. M.'s Commissioner of Customs.

Description.	From Singapore.		From Hong Kong.		From China.		From Europe and America.		From Java.		From Coast.		Total Quantity.	Total Mexican Dollars.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Shirtings, white	931,070	401,313											931,070	401,313
" grey	388,188	369,018											388,188	369,018
" figured	50,170	43,206	300	116									50,170	43,206
Coloured piece-goods	88,616	86,387											88,616	86,387
Turkey-red cloths	39,986	38,896											39,986	38,896
Corrugated iron	948	8,571											948	8,571
Iron	24,863	62,681											24,863	62,681
Prints and chintzes	51,570	85,581											51,570	85,581
Jaconet and muslin														
Madapolans														
Cambries	38,160	37,618											38,160	37,618
Miscellaneous piece-goods	94,411	103,149	1,681	8,627							3,540	3,968	99,632	116,689
Woolen goods	8,661	30,651											8,661	30,651
Bolts	1,933	6,977											1,933	6,977
Canvas	83,038	473,846											83,038	473,846
Corgies	1,394	109,510											1,394	109,510
Twist, white	1,143	98,885											1,143	98,885
" red	1,059	67,846											1,059	67,846
" coloured	4,906	37,288	24,479	25,996	8,860	8,394					194	4,368	38,498	76,476
Hardware	144	3,363	183,387	47,454	22,387	8,747							184,918	59,654
Earthenware	51	1,103	69,466	38,214	7,730	9,618							67,237	48,985
Crockeryware	1,530	37,801	3,778	101,991	68	310			555	454			6,911	189,966
Brass and copperware	645	31,966							44	449			689	21,716
Copper sheathings	3,030	96,670	9,349	10,055					2	37			4,374	46,763
Glassware	11,988	34,781	1,900	4,483					93	90			100	39,285
Iron	3,635	6,194											13,181	39,988
Steel	566	33,683											5,636	8,194
Machinery	97	54,519											566	33,683
Jewellery	28,143	186,571	4,947	98,324	969	4,450							36,031	170,790
Ship chandlery		54,986		22,970		1,740								87,698
Fancy goods		53,483		11,448		1,893								57,614
Sundries														

Description.	From Singapore.		From Hong Kong.		From China.		From Europe and America.		From Java.		From Coast.		Total Quantity.	Total Mosaic Dollars.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Thread, gold
" silk
" cotton
Silk pieces-goods
" crapes
" cloths
" trousers
Opium
Charcoal
Gunny bags
Mat bags
Mattings
Fire-crackers
Tea
Joss paper
" sticks
Gold paper
Paper
Materials
Medicine
Umbrellas
Fans
Salt, garlic
Gold leaf
Vermicelli
Tobacco
Cigars
Flour
Fruits
Vegetables
Cloth boxes
Tiles
Matches
Biscuits
Candles
Cutlery
Lead

Description.	From Singapore.		From Hong Kong.		From China.		From Europe and America.		From Java.		From Coast.		Total Quantity.	Total Mexican Dollars.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Tins ...	55	Dollars. 1,010	...	Dollars. ...	...	Dollars. ...	...	Dollars. ...	...	Dollars. ...	9,808	Dollars. 49,733	9,863	43,743
Liquors ...	5,287	85,860	...	...	8,697	8,196	...	...	...	...	...	...	469,771	368,643
Molasses ...	670	8,378	7,939	98,599	9,021	19,083	...	...	1,643	1,009	...	...	18,641	45,069
Kerosene oil ...	59,553	30,090	3,670	7,167	...	...	...	...	1,966	9,270	...	...	599,923	137,187
Lamp oil ...	7,357	146,341	4,733	15,056	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,784	19,970	16,740	90,637
Betel nut ...	15,598	30,696	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,983	7,301	90,681	37,897
Bees' wax ...	943	31,609	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	964	4,946	1,274	37,654
Raw silk ...	93	15,703	136	15,443	10	1,590	...	...	...	...	33	4,195	3,654	36,861
Dates ...	3,654	8,835	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	448	8,835
Shoes ...	43	846	...	16,366	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,113
Hats ...	3,779	31,840	8	343	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,787	53,183
Paris goods ...	155	13,463	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,463
Rifles and ammunition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Treasure ...	165	261,638	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8,170	...	269,808
	...	4,067,590	...	1,901,496	...	106,361	...	18,900	...	15,894	...	171,033	...	6,379,484

(No. 5).—EXPORT of Merchandise from the Port of Bangkok, Siam, from January 1 to December 31, 1881.

Furnished by H. S. M.'s Customs.

Description.	For Hong Kong.		For Singapore.		For China.		For Europe.		For Java.		For Coast.		For Sydney.		For Bombay.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Rice	1,145,572 00	1,985,445	2,104,108	3,491,811	15,909 00	20,114	18,993	32,000	377,413	624,687	4,577	7,908	4,200	10,500	...	...
Paddy	40,533 00	48,984	10,708	10,886	2,738 00	4,011	...	...	...	...	507	634	...	...	...	...
Sugar	14,501 00	57,305	1,199	64,893	1,198 00	4,884	...	...	...	...	417	2,688	...	...	...	...
Pepper	10,324 00	120,223	5,693	60,130	1,394 00	16,214	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tea	12,571 00	857,510	6,717	19,498	...	...	...	...	100	220	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tea-leaf	85,540 00	188,996	6,307	13,660	9,508 00	29,308	2,595	4,737	...	...	...	...	...	...	389	900
Spice-wood	53,600 00	118,808	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Resawood	53,600 00	118,808	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tea plants	99,013 00	136,090	3,404	10,614	29,313 00	41,647	94,450	99,450	5,191	10,506	1,025	1,400	...	...	...	...
Tea timber	3,794 00	4,316	...	...	9,650 00	11,667	20,200	23,600	...	...	5,781	3,786	...	...	...	...
Salt	29,727 00	157,340	8,380	2,100	744 00	7,558	...	...	...	...	50	600	...	...	...	...
Dried mussels	427 00	4,943	646	4,086	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Temp.	643 00	5,694	25	141,334	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Buffalo-hides	617 00	11,316	5,605	80,336	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" horns	5,444 00	6,172	...	...	2,725 00	2,870	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" hoofs	109 00	1,680	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ivory	39 00	5,923	89	17,339	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Elephant-hides	83 00	563	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" bones	164 00	1,594	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rhinoceros-hides	8 00	186	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" horns	5 65	13,608	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other skins	2 00	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tiger-bones	69 00	1,316	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cardamum, bet.	206 00	28,365	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" bastard	6,340 00	96,841	413	8,497	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton, cleaned	385 00	3,331	...	...	28 00	1,610	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" uncleaned	9,271 00	16,332	...	...	5,753 00	76,969	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gamboge	48 00	3,664	271	17,677	8,137 00	48,063	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stielac	2,113 00	80,251	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Macgrove-bark	4,647 00	4,647	...	...	708 00	781	...	...	...	...	52	985	...	...	...	...
Tallow	...	...	160	1,613	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description	For Hong Kong.		For Singapore.		For China.		For Europe.		For Java.		For Coast.		For Sydney.		For Bombay.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Indigo	14 00	210	86	8,130	...	...	...	...	...	...	445	1,860	...	...	...	...
Gum benjamin	1,732 00	3,290	...	...	4,143 00	7,592	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bean cakes	1,233 00	1,210	...	...	395 00	578	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lakrahaw-seed	451 00	1,830	171	1,326	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lotus-seed	6 00	90	54	1,028	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ray-skins	375 00	3,994	...	...	928 00	1,815	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deer-skins	32 00	4,132	19	350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deer-horns, soft	405 00	4,808	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deer-horns, old	502 00	6,108	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turtle-shell .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chunnam .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cutch .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pois .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Piculs .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Onions	38 00	718	5,465	7,101	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sharke'-fins	90,739 00	95,254	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rice, broken	1,750 00	38,853	435	10,954	151 00	3,730	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tin	1 750 00	6,943	9 550	11,544	907 00	9,670	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Salt meat	61,928 00	66,883	28 528	37,919	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Platan	2,458 00	11,298	59 798	368,513	2,291 00	26,733	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Piselli .....	...	...	10,011	57,624	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prawns, dried	638 00	5,064	53	33,697	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sundries .....	...	12,491	...	38,391	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tamarinds	99 00	11,640	2,491	8,759	...	1,738	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Silk, raw	530 00	4,394	688	76,837	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Agulla wood	408 00	8,830	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hide-cuttings .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron pens .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pungtalsi seal	9,492 00	12,601	391	3,482	48 00	2,745	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deer-skins	245 00	2,064	664	2,856	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bêche de mer	7 00	130	...	...	79 00	2,341	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fish-maws	46 00	138	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sharke'-skins	146 00	978	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Armadillo-skins	280 00	6,343	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Niger-seed .....	...	...	397	1,696	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Feathers .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ponies	36 00	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heads .....	...	...	62	1,563	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description.	For Hong Kong.		For Singapore.		For China.		For Europe.		For Java.		For Coast.		For Sydney.		For Bombay.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cattle ...	...	Dollars.	...	Dollars.	...	Dollars.	...	Dollars.	...	Dollars.	...	Dollars.	...	Dollars.	...	Dollars.
Kaiaa wood ...	760 00	...	5,681	90,467	1,117 00	1,970	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bird-nests ...	88 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Snake-skins ...	10 00	105,660	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fish, salt ...	19,348 00	216	6,161	7,592	...	...	...	...	6,839	13,556	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ironwood ...	3,240 00	25,830	...	...	732 00	...	...	...	86	243	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cow-hides ...	...	3,785	...	...	...	870	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chillies ...	...	...	246	3,924	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wood-oil ...	...	...	144	1,137	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ground-nuts ...	...	...	130	306	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yarrow-wood ...	...	...	29	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Earthenware-pots ...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Demar ...	...	...	10,000	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mexican dollars ...	...	10,088	10	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	3,369,037	...	4,527,240	...	833,897	...	60,887	...	1,022,677	...	100,778	...	10,500	...	900

Export of Merchandise from the Port of Bangkok, Siam—continued.

Description.	Total Quantity.	Total Value in Mexican Dollars.	Description.	Total Quantity.	Total Value in Mexican Dollars.	Description.	Total Quantity.	Total Value in Mexican Dollars.
Rice	3,670,773 00	6,001,885	Gamboge	316 33	20,368	Hide cuttings	...	...
Paddy	54,619 00	64,487	Sticklac	10,083 00	173,316	Arille-wood	...	4,394
Sugar	57,183 00	189,780	Manrove-bark	5,833 00	6,334	Iron pans	...	11,575
Pepper	17,680 00	197,367	Tallow	180 00	1,618	Pung-jai-seed	...	3,737
Peanut	3,079 00	6,966	Indigo	444 00	1,830	Deer-skins	...	11,596
Teel-seed	19,893 00	376,838	Gum benjamin	54 00	81 30	Beche de mer	...	5,305
Sapan-wood	104,949 00	246,981	Edra-cakes	5,880 00	10,803	Fish-nava	...	180
Ebony	8,940 00	3,330	Latre-bow-seed	1,634 00	1,785	Shark-skins	...	438
Rosewood	63,316 00	197,839	Loins-seed	633 00	3,156	Armadillo-skins	...	978
Teak planks	177,901 00	239,717	Tobacco	60 00	1,116	Niger-seed	...	6,343
Teak timber	31,194 00	40,948	Ray-skins	633 00	6,039	Pontils	...	1,596
Salt	14,041 00	5,896	Deer-skins	33 00	4,133	Pontils	...	83
Dried mussels	94,117 00	163,984	Deer-horns, old	408 00	4,808	Cattle	...	1,933
Hemp	468 00	6,003	Turtle-shell	503 00	6,106	Hide's nests	...	90,467
Buffalo-hides	16,237 00	146,948	Chunam	...	764	Shark-skins	...	1,913 00
" horns	4,333 40	61,551	Catch	33,291	...	Salt fish	...	83 00
" bones	8,339 00	9,153	Onions	1,596 00	7,383	Iron-wood	...	10,000
" hoofs	108 00	1,580	Shark-fins	38 00	718	Corn-chiles	...	46,573
Elephant-hides	88 00	23,161	Rice, broken	90,739 00	33,951	Chillies	...	4,070
" bones	53 00	343	Tin	9,416 00	59,537	Wool-sail	...	3,096
Rhinoceros-hides	184 00	1,594	Salt meat	5,997 00	28,116	Ground-nuts	...	1,137
" horns	8 00	186	Plaids	240,041 00	376,363	Yarra-wood	...	304
Otter-skins	9 00	13,604	Phiang	61,919 00	490,181	Exortian-war-pots	...	87
Tiger-bones	49 65	1,496	Phiangs	23,131 00	131,578	Damat	...	53 00
Cardamums, best	908 00	23,355	Sundries	689 00	1,573	Malacca dollars	...	70
Candanus, best	5,469 00	108,948	Silk, raw.	9,461 00	8,719	...	...	46
Cotton, cleaned	6,018 00	80,300	...	777 00	86,597	13,448
" undressed	11,108 00	63,394	9,863,946



Government Documents



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